

Chair Sam Demeritt opened the meeting at 7:08 PM. Other members in attendance were Cheryl Smith, Susan Mooney, and Johan Kerkhove, Alternate, who was seated for Mary Colvard.

The **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited.

Announcements:

- The Bear-Paw Annual Meeting is scheduled for February 17, and will be held at Coe-Brown Academy. Registration begins at 8:30 AM, the meeting starts at 9:00. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Pamela Hunt, Senior Biologist for Avian Conservation, NH Audubon, who will present “The State of New Hampshire Birds”. Following the meeting an optional walk is planned at Northwood Meadows.
- The NH Association of Resource Scientists will hold their annual meeting on Friday, January 26 at the Grappone Center, Concord NH from 8:30 to 4:30. Registration for non-members is \$150.

Reports:

- Trails Committee: All of the Aldo Leopold benches have been installed along the trails in the William E. Kennard Forest, Marsh Woods, and the Terninko Conservation Area. Downed trees across trails have been cleared. The map for the Marsh Woods kiosk has been installed. Invasive plant species have been removed at Marsh Woods and Kennard. An Animal Tracking Hike for the public at the Terninko Conservation Area is scheduled for Saturday, February 24 commencing at 10 AM; the inclement weather date will be the following Saturday, March 2. Kristen Lamb, environmental educator and the Executive Director at the Maine Center for Wildlife, Cape Neddick, ME, will lead the hike.
- Bear-Paw Regional Greenways (BPRG): See above for details of the BPRG Annual Meeting. A Winter Tree Identification Workshop is scheduled for January 27 at 10 AM. A Winter Tracking Exploration event is planned for March 23. See the BPRG website for details of scheduled events <https://www.bear-paw.org/news-events>. The Farm and Forest Expo will be held in May at the Deerfield Fairgrounds. BPRG has been discussing erecting additional kiosks and posting additional signage at conservation areas and trail heads.

Conservation Commission 2023 Annual Report: Demeritt has provided commission members a draft for review. Several edits were made. Smith will write out the final copy and send to members for final review and then submit to the Business Office.

Correspondence:

- Intent to Cut
 1. Received 3-20-23, Map 15, Lot 1, Sublot 7, 60 Garland Road, of 12 acres to cut 3+.
 2. Received 4-11-23, Map 46, Lot 4-8, Stevens Hill Road, of 22 acres, to cut 16.
 3. Received 4-4-23, Map 2, Lot1, Nielson Road, of 136 acres, to cut 20.
 4. Received 5-26-23, Map 29, Lot 8, NH Route 152, of 2028 acres, to cut 45.
 5. Received 6-20-23, Map 48, Lot 2-1 and Lot 2-2, Stevens Hill Road, of 54.14 acres, to cut 40-45.
 6. Received 6-20-23, Map 18, Lot 18, Raymond Road, of 21.6 acres, to cut 12.

7. Received 11-11-23, Map 74, Lot 1, 113 Mountain Road, Deerfield, of 136 acres, to cut 125.
- Monitoring Reports from BPRG, easement deed holder (All are satisfactory. Details are provided in the reports.)
 1. Rosenfield Mallet, 193 Nottingham Road, Deerfield, visited 11-1-23.
 2. Shippee-Rice, 38 Garland Road, some invasives noted, visited 10-8-23.
 3. William E. Kennard Forest, Kennard Road, Map 11, Lot 8, visited 10-3-23.
 4. Comte, 13 Nielson Road, Map 2, Lot 1, visited 11-18-23.
 5. Bacon, 185 Raymond Road, visited 9-10-23.
 6. Kimball Family Forest, Freeman Hall Road, Map 14, Lot 6, visited 11-3-23
- All From NH DES Wetlands Bureau
 1. Received 12-13-23, to Andrew and Kelly Stephens, 38 Whites Grove Road, File # 2023-03226, Permit Application received. From Melissa Rusinski, Program Assistant, Shoreland Program.
 2. Dated 12-8-23, to Town of Nottingham that Granite Engineering, LLC, will file a permit application with NHDES Shoreland Program for 36 & 38 Whites Grove Road.
 3. Dated 12-12-23, to Cindy A. Stephens Trust, Nashua NH, File # 2023-03212 from DES Wetlands Bureau that DES has “received the Shoreland Permit Application” for 36 Whites Grove Road, Map 63, Lot 61. From Melissa Rusinski, Program Assistant.
 4. Dated 12-27-23, to State of NH – DPCR, c/o Seth Prescott, Concord NH, File # 2023-03325, Pawtuckaway Road, Map 76, Lot 2 that an application has not been received”, but did receive the form and attachments”, from Rumi Shrestha, Application Receipt Center, NHDES Wetlands Bureau.
 5. Received 1-2-24, to Peter and Janice Nelson, 26 Birch Tree Lane (formally North River Lake Road), a Wetlands Permit by Notification for “repair or replacement of an existing legal retaining wall, with no changes in height, width or length” with detailed maps and photos, from NHDES Water Division. (No File # was noted.)

Meeting Minutes: The minutes of December 11, 2023 were reviewed. No edits were suggested. It was moved by Smith and seconded by Kerkhove to accept said minutes as read. All four (4) votes were in favor.

Other:

- Demeritt signed the Commission’s 2023 Mendums Landing Association Monitoring Report and will submit it to the Business Office.
- Mooney purchased a package of card stock for name plates at Commission Meetings. The sum for reimbursement is \$14.99. It was moved by Smith and seconded by Kerkhove to reimburse Mooney for the sum of \$14.99. All four (4) votes were in favor.

Adjournment: It was moved by Mooney and Seconded by Smith to adjourn the meeting. All four (4) votes were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Susan P. Mooney

These minutes were accepted as corrected at the meeting held on February 12, 2024.