

Chair Sam Demeritt opened the meeting at 7:05 PM. Other members in attendance were Debra Kimball, Kristen Lamb, Liz Kotowski, Susan Mooney, and Cheryl Smith (arrival 7:15 PM). Guests were Therese Thompson, resident, and Charlene Andersen, Select Board member (arrived at 7:24 PM, departure time not noted).

Announcements: The Annual Meeting of the NH Association of Conservation Commissions will be held on Saturday, November 3 at Pembroke Academy in Pembroke, NH.

The Lamprey River Watershed Association (LRWA) will hold its Annual Meeting on Thursday, November 8, most likely at the Lee Grange Hall.

Trails Committee (TC) Report: Kotowski noted that the last meeting was held on September 6, 18. The guest speakers originally scheduled had been rescheduled to the meeting on October 4. The TC's focus this fall will be the William Kennard Forest. Trail work will include clearing, a possible connecting loop in the back boundary area between the left and right trails (coming in from Kennard Road entrance), and noting points of interest on the property. The October work dates are to be determined. Specific work will address water drainage issues and an old culvert. Signage for the trail is an anticipated task for this fall. The Marsh Woods property (town-owned Merriam-Daggett and Tasker properties easements, held by the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)) where the parcels abut has been recently GPS-mapped and marked by Celia Abrams, TC member and Commission volunteer, for brush removal, trash removal and removal of invasive species. There has been no progress of yet on the Compatible Use Authorization.

Kotowski asked for reimbursement for trail work supplies: a 300-foot tape measure and seven (7) rolls of flagging tape – a total of \$38.06. Lamb moved that Kotowski be reimbursed \$36.08 for these trail supplies. Mooney seconded the motion. The motion passed, 6-0-0.

Correspondence: Received - an invitation to an Open House sponsored by Bear-Paw Regional Greenways (BPRG) to be held on Saturday, September 22, 7 to 9 PM. Conservation Commission members from participating towns and major donors are all invited to this reception.

Announcement: BPRG has moved into new office space in Suncook. The mailing address and phone number will remain as before.

LRWA: A meeting was held earlier today (9-10-18) in which the date for the Annual Meeting was decided (11-8-18).

Minutes: The minutes of August 13, 2018, were reviewed and revised. Kotowski moved that the minutes be accepted as revised; Lamb seconded the motion. All six (6) votes were in favor.

Select Board Member: The agenda was suspended in order to entertain Ms. Andersen. She proposed that Nottingham participate in the UNH capstone graduate program for graduate students in the environmental science program. The town would identify a project of concern for participants to address in which they would gather data and present remediating actions at the end of their study. Because the fieldwork would be conducted in the second semester from January to April, the project would be appropriate for the season. The application is due by 9-28-18. Andersen will take the lead on the application and follow up. Issues voiced by members included road equipment plowing into trees, over use of salt and sand, culvert drainage issues, sand build up in rivers and streams, runoff, and invasive species being spread along the roads. Andersen will craft a proposal and send it to all of the members for final comment before she makes the formal application.

(Relatedly: Mooney reported to members and to Andersen about the cutting of knotweed on McCrillis Road on Friday, 9-7-18. Photos were taken and sent to the Select Board Office immediately following.)

Lamb will send documents to Andersen and members about the UNH study on road salt usage.

(Andersen thanked the members and left the meeting. Time not noted.)

Minutes: The minutes of August 27, 2018 were reviewed and edited. Kotowski moved that these minutes be accepted as edited. Lamb seconded the motion. All six (6) votes were in favor.

Other: Demeritt related information that funding for the Commission's river and stream protection initiative would be available from Earth Day donations and assistance from the business office. Additionally, a date will be determined for signing the easement deeds for the Kennard and Shippee-Rice/Rice properties.

Correspondence Continued: Received the Summer Edition, "Supply Lines with the Source", a water quality newsletter issued by NH DES.

Other Business:

- The Commission will hold a workshop meeting on October 1, 2018 at 8 AM. Agenda will include a review of area community local protections for lower order streams in order to develop a draft document for Nottingham. Mooney will secure a meeting room and post the agenda.

- Commission members decided to focus on a fall litter cleanup campaign along Stage Road (NH Route 152) from Gile Road to the Northwood town line. Residents will be asked to volunteer for a section of Stage Road not presently “adopted” by an entity. These stretches will be Gile to Priest, Priest to Freeman Hall, Freeman Hall to 316 Stage Road; 316 Stage Road to Gebig, and Gebig to the town line. Pickup is scheduled for Sunday afternoon, October 21, from 2 to 4 PM. Blue bags will be available prior to that day at Demmonds Store, the library and at the town office building. Lamb will post information on Facebook and will make a flier to post around town.

There was a discussion about the road kill of so many gray squirrels recently. Squirrel populations coincide with mast years for nut bearing trees, oaks, beech and hickory. And with habitat fragmentation and additional widening of major roads, and the reduction of natural predators (coyotes and fox) the number of squirrel at-risk crossings has increased.

It was moved by Smith to adjourn. Kimball seconded the motion. All six (6) votes were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan P. Mooney, Secretary

These minutes were accepted as corrected at the meeting held on October 15, 2018.