

Chair Sam Demeritt opened the meeting at 7:12 PM. After the Pledge of Allegiance, introductions were made; other members in attendance were Krystal Costa, Susan Mooney and Raelene Shippee-Rice, alternate, who was seated for Kristen Lamb. Cheryl Smith arrived at 7:50 PM. Guests were Leanne Gast, resident of Freeman Hall Road and Historical Society member, Brianna Ellison, Linda Morrisette, Rich Pascoe and Carrie Pascoe, all residents of Gile Road, eastern end.

Announcements: Breakfast in the Barn, an annual fund-raising event hosted by Bear-Paw Regional Greenways, will be held at the Kitts farm, Stratham, on Saturday, May 4. The event was well attended.

Potential Easements: Rich Pascoe is a member of the informal group of neighbors and friends who belong to the self-named FROG group, Friends of Gile Road. He handed out packets to members which contained a map of the 61.5-acre parcel presently at the design review stage before the Planning Board. The developer, representing the owner, has proposed two conceptual designs, a conventional two-acre subdivision and an Open Space Subdivision (OSD), that would reduce lot size of the proposed homes in order to keep at least 50% of the parcel in undisturbed open space. The parcel has several acres of wetlands and the upland field has been used for years to raise vegetables to sell at a local farm stand. Ms. Gast noted that there are two cemeteries on the parcel but their exact locations have not been determined. Mr. Pascoe described the features of the parcel and related their attempts to contact the land owner to see if she might be willing to sell the land in fee or the development rights so to keep the property undeveloped. Commission members supported the initiative and provided options that might be available to the group as they proceed with their campaign. All guests left at 7:50 PM.

Trails Committee Report (NTC): Liz Kotowski has resigned her position as Chair of the NTC, and Costa was elected to that position. She reported that the NTC held a special workshop meeting on April 11. The focus was to review agencies and their requirements involved in the permitting process necessary for designing trails on town-owned properties for which the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) holds conservation easements. Celia Abrams, NTC member, and former Commission member, led the program as she is the point person for attending to the permitting process for the two parcels that comprise Marsh Woods. There will be a vernal pool inventory at the William E. Kennard Forest on April 14 at 1:30 PM.

Saving Special Places: Mooney, Liz Kotowski and Kortney Dorow, Recreation Department Director and NTC member, attended the NH annual land conservation conference hosted by NH Cooperative Extension, NH Fish and Game, the Society for

the Protection of NH Forests, and DES, among other supporters. The event was held at Prospect Mountain High School in Alton NH. It was estimate that there were approximately 300 attendees and presenters. There were three banks of workshops to choose from and a plenary speaker after lunch. Mooney attended "Who Owns and Who is Responsible for NH's Wildlife (we all are), Monarch Conservation, and Landscaping for Wildlife. Kotowski and Dorow attended programs on community conservation, managing multi-uses of shared outdoor spaces, trails for all in NH and community-based capital campaigns. We all agreed it was an excellent conference this year. It was moved by Shippee-Rice and seconded by Smith to reimburse Kotowski, Dorow, and Mooney \$65 each for conference fees and to reimburse Mooney for mileage. All four (4) votes were in Favor. (Note: Costa had just left the meeting at 8:00 PM.)

Bear-Paw Regional Greenways: See announcement above.

Lamprey River Watershed Association (LRWA): Demeritt reported that 45 attendees were present at the recent beekeeping program hosted by LRWA. Another public program, "Safe Drinking Water", will be held on May 21, tentatively at the Durham Library. The LRWA and the Lamprey River Advisory Committee have agreed to partner on a newsletter to include areas of common interest.

Roadside Litter Cleanup: It was decided to do the first clean-up of the Commission's Adopt a Highway section along Routes 152 and 156 on May 6, starting at 8:30 AM. Demeritt will pick up the supplies.

Reappointments of Members: It was moved by Smith and seconded by Shippee-Rice to recommend to the Select Board that Susan Mooney and Debra Kimball be reappointed to three-year terms. All four (4) votes were in the affirmative.

Correspondence: There was none.

Previous Meeting Minutes: The minutes of March 11, 2019 were reviewed and edits were made. Shippee-Rice moved to accept the minutes as edited. The motion was seconded by Smith. All four (4) votes were in favor.

Motion to Adjourn: Mooney moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Smith. All four (4) votes were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Susan P. Mooney, Secretary

These minutes were accepted as corrected at the meeting held on May 13, 2019.