

Chair Sam Demeritt opened the meeting at 7:08 PM. Other members in attendance were Cheryl Smith, Debra Kimball, Liz Kotowski, Kristen Lamb, Susan Mooney, and Paul Miliotis, alternate, who was seated for Krystal Costa.

**Subdivision Application:** Members discussed the Planning Board's (PB) site walk of June 27 on the Jeffrey Cole Builders LLC property for which there is an application for a proposed subdivision of four (4) lots. The property is located at 211 NH Old Turnpike Road (Route 4) and is identified as Tax Map 15, Lot 8. Of concern to the Commission are the steep slopes on the property. Mooney will forward the minutes of the site walk to Commission members. The Case is continued to the July 11, 2018 PB meeting.

**Trails Committee:** Kotowski reported on recent activities and plans of the Committee. There was a June 30 walk at Marsh Woods to trim branches along a proposed trail. Five (5) members participated. Mark West has offered to submit a Compatible Use Authorization (CUA) application to Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for permission to construct a trail system through the two properties that comprise Marsh Woods. NRCS holds the conservation easement deeds for both the Merriam/Daggett and the Tasker properties. Attendees at the Strafford Regional Planning Commission's (SRPC) Annual Meeting on June 28 were Kotowski, Kimball, Mooney and Celia Abrams. The presentation was a panel of four (4) participants who spoke to their experiences re: trail development, grant programs and trail maintenance. Kyle Pimental of SRPC has been invited to attend a future Committee meeting. Select Person Donna Danis has been invited to the September meeting to discuss a trail system for the town-owned Marston property. Kotowski noted the Committee is looking into signage materials and printing companies for trail systems. An exploratory walk is scheduled on the Town Office property on July 11 at 10:00 AM to follow the river trail and woods road. The Society for the Protection of NH Forests is hosting a public walk at Mulligan Forest on August 1. The event is free but participants are requested to preregister.

**Bear-Paw Regional Greenways (BPRG):** Demeritt said that BPRG is still looking for new office space. There was a discussion on the types of "spaces" that would be accommodating.

**Lamprey River Watershed Association:** Demeritt reported that there was not a quorum, so no meeting was held on this date.

**Volunteer River Assessment Program:** Kimball gave the Commission a midseason update on the river water quality-testing program for the North and Little Rivers.

**Correspondence:** There was none.

**Meeting Minutes:** Several months' of minutes were reviewed.

- The minutes of 4-24-18 were accepted as edited. The motion was made by Smith and seconded by Kotowski. All seven (7) votes were in favor.
- The minutes of 4-14-18 were accepted as edited. The motion was made by Kimball and seconded by Lamb. All seven (7) votes were in favor.
- The minutes of 6-5-18 were accepted as edited. The motion was made by Smith and seconded by Kotowski. All seven (7) votes were in favor.
- The minutes of 6-11-18 were accepted as edited. The motion was made by Kimball and seconded by Smith. All seven (7) votes were in favor.
- The minutes of 6-18-18 were accepted as edited. The motion was made by Kotowski and seconded by Smith. All seven (7) votes were in favor.

**Roadside Cleanup:** Demeritt submitted the Adopt a Highway renewal to DOT Division 6 for the Commission's stretch of road. The next date for roadside litter clean up is scheduled for July 12, 2018, to begin at 8:30 AM. Mooney will contact other members and volunteers.

**Reimbursements:** Members and committee members who attended the SRPC Annual Meeting each paid a \$20 fee to attend. Smith moved that the four (4) participants be reimbursed \$20 each and that Mooney be reimbursed for the 40 mile round trip. Lamb seconded the motion. The motion carried with all seven (7) votes in favor.

**Local Protection for Lower Order Streams:** Mooney has been in contact with Kyle Pimental, SRPC, and invited him to a future Commission meeting.

**Turtles:** Miliotis spoke to the concern of turtle safety and how to conserve habitat specifically of Blandings turtles in the area. Two large females moving to lay their eggs were recently killed by vehicles traveling on two of the town's dirt roads. Because of their size, the turtles were estimated to have been over 60 years old. Local highway management practices and increased vehicular traffic have placed this protected species in increased peril. Mike Marchand is the NH Fish and Game specialist on turtles. Brenden Clifford has advised on how to conserve habitat of Blandings turtles. Members discussed how best to address this concern.

Kotowski left at 9:03 PM.

It was moved by Mooney to adjourn. Kimball seconded the motion. All six (6) votes were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan P. Mooney, Secretary

These minutes were accepted as corrected at the meeting held on August 13, 2018.