

Memorial Building

7:00 p.m.

Note: These minutes are to be considered draft minutes until approved by the Conservation Commission.

Members Present: Bruce Allen, Marla Binzel, Emily Cleaveland, Tim Fraser, Ken Jacques, Daphne Klein, Patricia Allen-Shaw (alternate) and George McCusker (Selectmen's Rep).

Bruce Allen opened the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

Minutes: The minutes of 12/6/18 were approved as written.

Town Lots:

Emily reported on a recent family hike to the Kinsley lot and the new loop trail. Numerous bones were scattered across the trail where it passes close to the property line on the northeast side of the property. Cows heads and bodies could be seen on the adjoining property. George and Ken explained that January is a time that coyote hunting and trapping is allowed at night, and the owner of the adjoining property was probably using the dead cows as bait piles to attract coyotes and fisher cats. As soon as the snow melts, commissioners will need to get out to the trail to clean up that particular area.

There was a brief discussion about the Knowlton lot and whether it would be a candidate for a timber sale. Due to the heavy harvest the last time it was cut, the consensus was that it probably would be another 10 years before a timber sale would be worthwhile. Because of how remote the lot is, it was decided that it would be advantageous to plan harvests on the McDonald Knap and Fogg lots at the same time.

Outreach:

Daphne asked Marla to check with the 250th Committee about plans for advertisement for the hikes that they asked the Commission to organize as part of the 250th activities. There was a discussion about whether or not the 'Forever Locked' exhibit has been booked for Old Home Day, and if so, would representatives from Fish & Game be there to answer questions, etc.

Emily was asked about the schedule for OHD and whether there was still interest in the Commission booking a speaker. The schedule is still in flux and it was decided to defer any decision until the next meeting.

Communications and miscellaneous:

A copy of the letter that DES sent to Mr. Pratt was circulated to Commission members to review.

The Commission's budget request is due to the Budget & Planning Committee by January 22nd.

Action Items:

Marla will check with the 250th about advertising plans, Bruce will submit the budget.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Submitted by Marla Binzel