

Conservation Commission
Memorial Building

November 5, 2020
7:00 p.m.

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

Members present: Marla Binzel, George McCusker, Ken Jacques, Emily Cleaveland, Dan Saulnier
Members present via Zoom: Daphne Klein, Tim Fraser

Marla opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Minutes: Emily made a motion to approve the minutes of 10/1/20. George seconded. The minutes of 10/1/20 were approved as written.

Town Lots:

- Marla asked Dan and Daphne how much was left to do in terms of refreshing the blazes and putting up the boundary signs in the town lots in the northeast corner of the town. Dan thinks it would probably take about 5-6 more hours to complete the work. Marla said that Jim Fleury, the Merrimack County Extension Forester, had told the ASLPT Outreach Committee that right now there is no market for low grade timber. Ken said that because of the current market there will be a lot more slash left behind in the woods as there is no market for wood chips. Ken said he will talk to Brooks Weathers to ask him about his availability to evaluate the lots and also to get his opinion of what is marketable at this time.
- Daphne mentioned that as she has been cleaning up the Kinsley loop trail, she has noticed that in some areas it's hard to see the aluminum disks that mark the trail. She asked if there was a reason for not blazing the trail with paint. No one had any objection to doing that, so that may be done next spring. Daphne also mentioned that the laminated sign on the utility pole had come down and she will replace it, but a more permanent sign there would be a good idea.
- Tim said he hoped to be able to get back to the Kinsley lot this weekend to work on the trail that will connect to the Kinsley loop trail. He suggested that anyone interested in helping could meet him there at 10:00 on Sunday, 11/8 at 10:00, but he will confirm this by email.

Wetlands:

- Marla said that she will be attending the session on wetlands permitting which will go over the latest DES rules at this weekend's online annual meeting of NH Association of Conservation Commissions. She said that at the recent round table of local Conservation Commissions it was apparent that the CCs in the area are grappling with how to handle these permits and towns do not all handle them in the same way. Marla also learned that CCs do have statutory permission to go on someone's property if a wetlands permit has been applied for. Currently DES only has six people out in the field for the whole state so enforcement is challenging.
- At the round table Marla also heard what other CCs are doing to get information out to people in their towns. Someone in Goshen writes a blog. The Newbury CC sends out a newsletter twice a year. Some commissions are actively working on developing local ordinances.

Zoning, Planning, Selectmen Reports:

- George reviewed some of the issues that have been discussed at the Planning Board and Select Board meetings. See the minutes on the town website for more details.

Communications and Miscellaneous:

- George asked if the half tank at the Collins Park lot has been refilled. Marla said she didn't realize the empty tank had been returned to the site. She said it won't take long to refill it. Marla and Emily will confer on a time for the next work session — tentatively scheduled for 11/11 at 1:00.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 pm.

Submitted by: Daphne Klein, Secretary

ACTION ITEMS:

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- **Ken will talk to Brooks Weathers about the NE town lots.**
- **Tim will email CC members to confirm date and time for the Kinsley lot work session, tentatively planned for 11/8 at 10:00.**
- **Marla will email those interested in working on the Collins Park lot, tentatively scheduled for 11/11 at 1:00.**