

**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, Tim Fraser, Ken Jacques, Daphne Klein, and George McCusker (Selectmen's Rep).

Bruce Allen opened the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

**Minutes:** The minutes of 10/4/18 were approved as written.

**Town Lots:**

Kinsley -Tim showed the group a printout of a map he made showing where he has started the extension trail to connect to the loop trail. Marla brought in the laminated signs she has had made to help direct people to the trailhead from the parking lot.

Brooks – Daphne reported that the trail is ready for the March 250<sup>th</sup> hike, barring any new downed trees between now and then.

Collins Park – Ken gave a brief overview of the recent meeting bringing together representatives from the 250<sup>th</sup>, Gardening Club, Historical Society and Conservation Commission, along with the Midgetts to discuss building a trail from the meeting house to the post office and perhaps the town office. The Commission discussed the trail/boardwalk and questioned whether a boardwalk would bring in ADA accessibility requirements.

**Outreach**

The Commission discussed what it's plans might be for Old Home Day. There was agreement that while the Commission wasn't ready to commit to a specific speaker, that they would let the OHD planning committee know that we would be willing to fill a time slot with a conservation themed speaker that would be of interest to children.

**Communications and miscellaneous:**

Bruce brought forward an issue that was discussed at a recent Ausbon Sargent Round Table for local Conservation Commissions. An issue has arisen where a neighboring town granted a building permit for a property that has a conservation easement that prohibits building. The Commission discussed this problem, and asked that George bring forth the Commission's suggestion to the Selectmen that perhaps Springfield should add a question to our zoning permits, asking if there are any easements or ROW for the land that the permit pertains to. George indicated that he would do so and asked Marla to contact Janet to have it put on the agenda.

There was a discussion regarding the habitual disregard of rules prohibiting the filling in of wetlands by Mr. Pratt. Ken updated the Commission on the amount of money remaining in this year's budget (\$609), and it was voted to have Bruce purchase a root wrench to be used to remove small invasive shrubs from town lots. There was also discussion about purchasing additional game cameras to capture wildlife activity on town lots.

**Action Items:**

**Marla will contact Emily Cleaveland about the Commission's plan to provide a speaker for OHD, contact Janet about putting the easement/ROW issue on the Selectmen's agenda and ask about the Knowlton lot.**

**George will discuss the easement/ROW issue and zoning permits with the Selectmen**

**Bruce will purchase a root wrench.**

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

Submitted by Marla Binzel