

**Conservation Commission  
Memorial Building**

**December 3, 2020  
7:00 p.m.**

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

Members present: Marla Binzel, Emily Cleaveland, Ken Jacques  
Members present via zoom: Dan Saulnier, Daphne Klein  
Guests via zoom: Sue-Ann Kasanaugh

Marla opened the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

**Minutes:** Daphne Ken suggested a change to the December 3<sup>rd</sup> minutes; under election of officers, Daphne is going to become an alternate Conservation Commission member, not an alternate Selectboard member.

Dan made a motion to approve the corrected minutes of 12/3/20. Daphne seconded. The minutes of 12/3/20 were approved with the correction.

**Town Lots:**

- Ken checked with Brooks Weathers about getting out to the town lots in the NE corner of Springfield to assess the timber. He looks to be available near the end of Jan into the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of February. Bruce Allen is willing to help.
- Marla suggested the possibility of leaving the slash. Discussion ensued about what the plan is for the use of the lots. Kinsley and Brooks lots are great for hiking, and perhaps that is enough land for hiking designation, and the more remote NE land might be left for hunting and snowmobiling.

**Wetlands/Natural Resource Inventory:**

- Marla shared a sheet listing all the links for updating the Natural Resource Inventory Maps. The “Resources for updating Natural Resource Inventory Maps” (see enclosure)

It was agreed that the CC would wait until March, when people’s schedules are a little lighter to put together a committee to consider Springfield’s Natural Resource Inventory Map. There should be no cost if we do it ourselves, and it might make Springfield eligible for certain grants.

**Outreach:**

- Emily suggested we again obtain seedlings from the NH State Forest Nursery, pot them up, and make them available to Springfield residents – perhaps at some town event, optimistic that those may happen again in 2021
- The NH State Forest Nursery catalog was considered, and ‘Yellow Osier Dogwood’ was chosen as the conservation plant of 2021. Marla will order 50 seedlings. Emily will pot them up, and Marla will water them. Monies will be reimbursed to Marla for the seedlings and Emily/Marla for the potting soil.

**Treasury:**

- While on the subject of funds in the treasury, it was noted that the Conservation Commission did not spend even half of the funds in the budget 2020. The advertising budget was untouched, as the planned speakers were cancelled due to Covid. NH Association of Conservation Commissions dues should be looked into, as they may need to be paid.

**Zoning, Planning, Selectmen Reports:**

- George reviewed some of the issues that have been discussed at the Select Board meeting. See the minutes on the town website for more details. The Planning and Zoning boards did not meet due to snow apocalypse.
- Ken spoke to some fiscal considerations; the power plant was sold. The new owners are investors, but run the plant in Tamworth, which is still running, so may perhaps run it seasonally.

**Communications and Miscellaneous:**

- Marla made note of the email she forwarded from the NHACC Lunch and Learn Zoom Series “An introduction to prescribed fire in New Hampshire”; Learning how to use prescribed fire to manage municipal conservation lands. She invited members to consider registering and attending. George suggested she forward it to the fire department.
- Dan shared a high speed internet update; people are starting to get fiber! There was some discussion of the logistics.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 pm.

Submitted by: Emily Cleaveland, Secretary

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- Ken will contact Bruce Allen to let him know late Jan/2nd week of Feb will be when Brooks is available.
- Marla will order 50 Yellow Osier Dogwood seedlings, and will coordinate with Emily about planting.