

**CONWAY CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, February 13, 2019**

The February monthly meeting of the Conway Conservation Commission took place at 6:30 PM in the Whitaker Home Site Meeting House in North Conway.

Present: Chairman Rob Adair, Linda Kearney, Treasurer; Dan Lucy, Pat Ferland, Nat Lucy, Peter Minnich, Alternate; Selectmen Representative Dave Weathers; Theresa Gallagher, Recording Secretary

Absent: Vice Chairman Larry Huemmler

Also Attending: Dale McConkey, Josh Brustin, Pinkham Realty.

1. **Approval of the Minutes for December 12, 2018: Chairman Rob Adair asked for a motion to accept the December 12, 2018 meeting minutes; Linda Kearney made the motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Peter Minnich. No Discussion or corrections. Motion passed unanimously (7-0).**
2. Public Comment:

Dale McConkey, of McConkey & Associates of Freedom, NH, presented an application on behalf of a client for a dock on Conway Lake. Dale displayed a map of the Lake and pointed out where the new dock would be placed, near the bridge. He obtained the approval for the shore line, and notified the abutters that the dock will be closer to their properties than the 25 foot requirement, and they are fine with that. Dave Weathers reminded him that he needs documentation to show approval of the location in order for the DES to accept it. Dale McCarthy stated that the first requirement is to have the Conway Conservation Commission approve and sign the application. Discussion continued with review of the map of Conway Lake and the location of the dock, which will be a seasonal dock. Chairperson Rob Adair commented that he doesn't see any problems with the location of the dock. No one had any questions. **Chairman Rob Adair asked for a motion to accept Dale McCarthy's application for the proposed seasonal dock on Conway Lake. Linda Kearney made a motion to accept the application; Peter Minnich seconded. Rob Adair asked for a vote; all in favor. (7-0) .**

Josh Brustin, of Pinkham Realty in North Conway, asked the Conway Conservation Commission for permission to cut trees on his property and part of the Town's property, in order to have a better view of the mountains. There used to be a nice view of the Moat Mountains in the past, but now the trees are overgrown and blocks the view. He contacted Greg Tsoules of East Branch Timberworks for advice on how to do this project correctly. Greg Tsoules said he would not use heavy equipment, but would cut the trees into smaller pieces and leave them there. Linda Kearney asked if the cut pieces could be brought some place off the property. Dave Weathers said depending on the volume, he would have to have an "Intent to Cut" permit. Josh Bruston presented a map to show the location of the trees; they are on a steep hill behind his building. Dave Weathers asked how many trees and what species. Josh said he does not know, but he will find out. Dave Weathers asked about salvaging the wood instead of leaving it in place. Rob Adair asked about the size of the trees. Josh said they are not marked yet. Nat asked about the timeline, and Josh said, due to the wetlands in that location, he wants to get it done this winter. Nat also

asked about having photographs to show more details. Josh said he will come back with the photos. He would be cutting about 50 feet of trees on his property, not a clear cut, just to open the view. Dave Weathers commented that Josh may have to file for an Intent To Cut on his property, so the Town will get the tax revenue from the timber wood, whether it's left on the ground or not; it depends on the volume. He also reminded Josh that, if he is opening up a view, and he leaves the evergreens there, the cutting will not open up a view. Dave said he would rather see the wood cut on the Town's property utilized rather than being left on the ground. A consultant forester would be able to tell how many cords of firewood are cut, and the species of trees. It's different if it is all saplings that will be cut. Josh should also report how many square feet on his property, and how many square feet will be cut on the Town's property. Josh Brustin said he will come back to the next meeting with that information. Chairman Rob Adair asked Josh Brustin to send it to him before the next meeting. .

3. Reports and Other Business:

- a. Rob Adair reported that UNH Corporate Extension is interested in putting on a workshop for different Towns for managing timber and wildlife, specifically for Conservation Commission members. The workshop will be 3 hours long, and will cover using a map and compass, conservation easement monitoring, and managing the town forest timber and wildlife. Don Johnson will be involved. Rob said he suggested having the workshop at Whitaker Woods. They would like someone from the Conway Conservation Commission to speak at the workshop; Rob said he is willing to do that. The dates they offered for the Conway workshop are April 19, May 10, May 31, June 14, June 21 and June 28. **Chairman Rob Adair asked for a motion to have the CCC host the workshop and participate in it. Nat Lucy made a motion to offer the Conway Conservation Commission's land for the UNH workshop location, on the date that Rob Adair chooses, since he will speak at the workshop; seconded by Linda Kearney. Passes unanimously (7-0).**
- b. No report from Forester Don Johnson
- c. Rob Adair reported that the NH Association of Conservation Commissions has a Grumman Grant with \$9,000 available to disperse to Towns. The funds can be used for trail building, Master Plans, lake access, natural resources protections and other things. Rob suggested that it's not a lot of work to apply for the funds. Don Johnson has proposed \$4,800 in his budget for Timber Management Plan for the Marshall Conservation Area, but it was cut out of the budget for the last two years. Linda Kearney suggested not putting in for the \$4,800, but put in \$1,000 or \$2,000 for trail work, which would have a better chance of being granted due to lesser amounts. After some discussion, it was agreed to submit a grant application for trail work on the Marshall Conservation Area for \$2,000. Rob Adair discussed the work on the Lucille's Loop, which is halfway done. The last half is the most challenging to clear. Rob said he would submit the grant to the Association.
- d. Land Acquisition: Rob Adair reported that he spoke to Julie Hussey again, and since they have a lot of business to take care of at this time, she asked Rob to contact her again in April.
- e. Selectmen's Report: Dave Weathers reported that the Board of Selectmen reappointed Dan Lucy and Linda Kearney for 3 year terms to end in 2021.

- f. Rob Adair was contacted by the White Mountain Milers to request a Bucks for Bernie Event on July 20, 2019. They would like to run the one mile loop in the woods rather than at the high school track. **Chairman Rob Adair asked for a motion to approve the Bucks for Bernie event to be held at Whitaker Woods on July 20th. Nat Lucy made the motion to approve the event; seconded by Linda Kearney. All in favor. Passed unanimously (7-0).**
- g. Rob Adair reported that the Fun Run Group wants to hold their Tuesday Fun Runs again from June 11th to August 13, 2019 at Whitaker Woods, as they have in the past. Everyone agreed to accept the event at Whitaker Woods.
- h. Rob Adair reported that he received a few phone calls about people parking snowmobile trailers at the Marshall Conservation Area, which is too small of an area for the trailers to park. Rob contacted Collin Preece, of the Mountain Meadow Riders Snowmobile Club. He put a notice on the website, and sent a group e-mail asking members not to park their trailers in that parking lot. Rob was at the parking lot last week, and saw that two people park their trailers there. He politely asked them not to park them there, but they just ignored his request. Nat Lucy made a suggestion to post a sign. Dave Weather said you can't take action unless there is a sign. There are spacious parking areas on the east side of Town that could accommodate the trailers. Dave Weathers also noted that, once the sign is up, you have to check with the Police before calling a tow truck. He will check on that to make sure that is the correct procedure. Dan Lucy commented that the sign will have to note that the violators will be towed. There is nothing in the budget for signs, but it will not be very expensive. **Nat Lucy made a motion for the CCC to put up signs at the Marshall Conservation Area parking lot that state "No snowmobile trailers parking – Violators will be towed"; Pat Ferland seconded. Passed unanimously. (7-0)**
- i. Rob Adair reported that he spoke with the Town Manager, Tom Holmes, about liability for grooming the trails, which he does voluntarily. Tom told Rob that any grooming done on the trails can to be done by any association that has an agreement with the Town. Rob is a member of NEMBA, and he is covered under their agreement. Dave Weathers suggested that they add an addendum to the agreement to include grooming as part of their work.
- j. Round Table; Rob Adair contacted the ski touring foundation, because he found that, even in hard snow conditions, bikes were restricted to the 2K fat bike route. The fat bikes are smoothing out the footprints that skate skiers use. Steve Vosberg, the groomer, makes the determination in the MWV Ski Touring Foundation's daily report, where fat bikes are allowed. Rob contacted Court Hanson and suggested that someone else should make the call. Pat Ferland said he rents fat bikes at Stan & Dan Sports and the weekend ticket attendant lets the fat bikes go wherever they choose.
- k. Rob Adair asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 P.M. Linda Kearney made the motion; seconded by Peter Minnich. Passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Theresa Ann Gallagher

Recording Secretary