Franconia Conservation Commission

Meeting: January 26, 2017, 8 AM

Members present: Mary Grote, Ginny Jeffryes, Kim Cowles, Chris Nicodemus, Red McCarthy.

Guest: Mark Ober.

Mark Ober considering volunteering for vacant position on Conservation Commission. Works for NH Fish and Game, assigned to Randolph area. He helped assess the beaver situation on Meadow Brook last summer.

Minutes of 1/26/2017 reviewed. Chris moved to accept, Red seconds; approved unanimously.

Lawrence property update: Town lawyer told Select Board that no warrant article needed to put the conservation easement in place. Rebecca Brown of ACT is finalizing the easement and mapping documentation now. Select Board will review and finalize when they receive it from her.

McKenzie Woods trails conservation easement: We will walk it Monday February 6th, 8 am, will meet at the McKenzie Woods road access point. Kim will bring a map, Chris has a GPS.

Wetlands training by DES: Red talked to Mary Ann Tilton recently, who wants to know what we want to learn. General discussion of wetlands procedures/protocols, assessment, inspections, enforcement. He’ll find out from her when she or her staff is available. Options for us: evenings, or Tuesday afternoons? Invite neighboring Conservation Commissions – Ginny will email them. Possibly invite Town Highway Department since they work around wetlands/waterways.

Address who should chair the Conservation Commission, and who should be secretary? We’d like Kim to remain Chair because a significant part of what CC does relates to Franconia’s parks, also knows the town website. Ginny will be secretary. Mary moved to confirm these; Chris seconds. Approved unanimously.

Mary and Ginny will come in Monday morning 1/30/17 to go through old files, organize.

Red suggests that we get copies of the building permits from SB when issued, so we can find out about potential conservation issues before building commences. Agreed. We’ll ask Holly to put copies in our box.

Mark Ober is willing to serve on the Committee. Discussion of our duties and recent activities. Kim will have Holly add appointing him to Select Board meeting agenda.

Next meeting: Tuesday Feb 21st at 8 am. Agenda to include planning for the spring/summer trail building in Fox Hill Park. Meetings 3rd Tuesday of each month 8 am.

Meeting adjourned at 8:57 am

Minutes submitted by Ginny Jeffryes