

Town of Brookfield Conservation Commission

Meeting Agenda – July 1, 2020

Due to Coronavirus pandemic no March, April, May, or June CC meetings were held.

I hope we will be courteous to each other by wearing a mask and practice social distancing during this meeting.

Commission Members: Bob Nielsen, Frank Frazier (unable to attend), Pat Girard, Rich Zacher (Selectman's Representative)

1. Meeting called to order
2. Public Comments
3. Review of February 2020 minutes (see end of agenda)
4. Mail:

a) Meredith Savings Bank Statement:

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| March 10, 2020 | Interest: \$0.05 (0.01%) | Balance: \$5,430.47 |
| April 10, 2020 | Interest: \$0.08 (0.02%) | Balance: \$5,430.55 |
| Deposit April 24, 2020: \$500 | | |
| May 8, 2020 | Interest: \$0.14 (0.03%) | Balance: \$5,930.69 |
| June 10, 2020 | Interest: \$0.10 (0.02%) | Balance: \$5,930.79 |

5. Old & New Business

- a) The 50th anniversary of Earth Day was on Wednesday, April 22. Earth Day is an annual worldwide event always taking place on April 22. It is a day when people offer help in various ways in support of environmental protection. This year, Moose Mountains Regional Greenways (MMRG) coordinated with the Conservation Commissions of the seven member towns (Brookfield, Farmington, Middleton, Milton, New Durham, Wakefield, and Wolfeboro) to do a trash clean-up of the local roads, being careful to practice safe-distancing and other precautions during the coronavirus pandemic. Instead of a single day, the clean-up offered much better flexibility by being spread over five days from Wednesday, April 22 through Sunday, April, 26. In the past, Brookfield had designated a single day on the same day as the delicious Selectmen's Breakfast. The format this year of multiple days and not aligning with the Selectmen's Breakfast made the project more flexible and therefore effective,

and the Selectmen's Breakfast can be offered when it is convenient for them as a thank you from the Selectmen and the town. Photographs were requested of the volunteers, and here are the ones submitted. There were about 25 volunteers who picked up trash on the Brookfield Roads. The montage at the end of the photo section is one which MMRG put together incorporating the seven member towns. Thank you all for a great job!







b)





c) On Wednesday, April 29, Frank, Bob, and Pat met to mark a trail on the Town Preserve from the timber harvest landing on Cottle Hill Road through the hayfield to the rail trail near Hobo Junction (aka Sadie's Pool) roughly 1.7 miles from Clark Road. The marked trail was measured to be about 1.25 miles long. Frank arranged for an Eagle Scout (who is going to cut the trail as a Service Project) and his Scout Master and father to meet us, but they were unable to walk with us that day. It was particularly satisfying to get the trail marked with orange tape, a project that had been on our list of things to do for some time. We spent about two and a half hours accomplishing this project.



d) On Thursday, May 7, Frank and Bob met Calvin Kinville (Eagle Scout), Jordan Dansereau (Scout Master), and John Dansereau (Assistant Scout Master and father to Jordan) to walk the marked trail from Cottle Hill to the Rail Trail. Calvin took notes and incorporated suggestions made so that he could write up a proposal for his Service Project. It was a great walk, and we even took a side trip along Old Governor's Road towards Cotton Valley noting the apparent end of the Town Preserve marked with orange tape nailed into the crevice of a boulder.

The Selectmen approved Calvin's project and signed service papers which Calvin delivered along with his project papers to the Eagle Council who approved them on June 24.

On June 26, I communicated with Calvin asking for an update. He said he hoped to begin the trail on Monday, June 29th. With all the recent rain, I am not sure he has begun.

On April 30, Frank emailed me and asked if I could check to see if in the area of Sadie's Pool there are any property owners between the property line of the Town Preserve and the State Right of Way (thirty feet from the center of the tracks on the rail trail). If there is, we need to reach out to that person since that area is where our trail (just a foot traffic trail not wide enough for snowmobiles) will meet the rail trail. I continue to work on this. Will include communicating with Carroll County Registry of Deeds.



f) I spoke with Alan Fredrickson on June 29th. He and Rich had talked about using Old Governor's Road to access the hayfield. He said he worked on Old Governor's Road with his excavator for about a day to improve it to handle his farm equipment to get to the Town Preserve field to bale the hay that had been cut.



g) Frank's June 23rd email regarding MMRG, the 100-acre parcel abutting Moose Mountain Reservation, and Jack Savage & Tom Howe at The Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests (SPNHF). Issues of changes to RSA 36-A (conservation commission laws) and whether a town donating conservation funds to a private conservation group such as MMRG toward the purchase of land entitles the town to have legal interest in the land. Additional communication June 24th between Frank and Barbara Richter (Executive Director of the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions). Frank will cover this topic and summarize in our meeting.

h) Reorganization of the positions on the Conservation Commission (usually decided the first meeting after the February town elections).

i) The status of making gates for the Town Preserve. Rich? Where will they be placed? Signs have been delivered. They measure 24 inches by 18 inches.



7) Selectman's Report

8) Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 5.

9) Close meeting

The May 21, 2020 email from a concerned citizen to the Conservation Commission:

FYI

We found out yesterday that someone dumped a dozen or so dead pigs on Broderick's land which borders ours and the rail trail. So far on our land there has just been some trash thrown out. On town preserve we have seen TV, air conditioner, stumps and brush dumped. There is also a huge increase in 4 wheeler, dirt bike, (15, 4 wheelers and dirt bikes in one group) and truck traffic. In the town field, trucks have been doing donuts and spinning/digging it up.

We called fish and game and he put up signs on our side and has been down trying to catch them. We have seen a truck parked in your parking area off Lyford Road, with a trailer to unload 4 wheelers. There is nothing to tell people what is or isn't allowed on your land or even that it is the town land.

Broderick called fish and game and Wakefield Police about the pigs. We don't know if they have found out who did it, as of yesterday, bears or coyotes had eaten or dragged off all but four pigs which are probably gone now. Maybe you could impress upon the police to spend a little time down there. They haven't been going down at all since Fifield retired.



Town of Brookfield Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes – February 5, 2020

Commission Members: Bob Nielsen, Frank Frazier, Pat Girard, Rich Zacher (Selectman's Representative); additional attendees Al Weedon and Mark Stengel

1. Meeting called to order at 6:03.
2. Public Comments
 - a. None
3. Review of December 4, 2019 minutes:
 - a. Approved
4. Mail:
 - a. Meredith Savings Bank Statement:

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| December 10, 2019 | Interest: \$0.07(0.02%) | Balance: \$5,430.33 |
| January 10, 2020. | Interest: \$0.05(0.01%) | Balance: \$5,430.38 |

5. Old Business
 - a. Pat Girard has spoken with Alan Fredrickson concerning encouraging foot traffic to the Town Preserve. Alan will place boulders at the entrance by the Royal property.
 - b. No update on the Conservation Commission liaison to the Planning Board.
 - c. Bob will contact UNH to have someone come up and talk about composting.
 - d. Town Preserve proposed trail to the rail trail – Still working on identifying all property owners.
6. New Business
 - a. NHACC.org: New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions. Bob has forwarded the e-news.
 - b. Warrant articles will be voted on at the Town Meeting March 10 (7pm-8pm). As always, one of the Articles will be about funding the Conservation Commission.

- c. Bob stopped in at the Gage Hill Conservation Area and took photos to gather some visual ideas to help us with the Town Preserve kiosk.
 - d. Frank and Bob attended the Seven Town Mixer. Visit NHACC.org to access the e-news.
 - e. Bob is working on member contact information to The Association of Conservation Commissions (NHACC).
 - f. Mark Stengel attended our February CC meeting with concerns regarding how road crews handle certain drainage projects.
7. Selectman's Report
- a. No report
8. Next Meeting:
- a. Wednesday, March 4, 2020
9. Close meeting at 6:58.

NOTE: Additional information on all items listed above can be found in the February 5, 2020 Meeting Agenda.