

## Town of Brookfield Conservation Commission

### Meeting Agenda – August 5, 2020

I plan to be courteous to you by wearing a mask and practice social distancing during this meeting.

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

1. Meeting called to order
2. Public Comments
3. Review of July 2020 agenda & minutes
4. Mail:

a) Meredith Savings Bank Statement:

June 10, 2020	Interest: \$0.10 (0.02%)	Balance: \$5,930.79
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July 10, 2020	Interest: \$0.10 (0.02%)	Balance: \$5,930.89
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5. Old & New Business

a) Frank's June 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup> 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.

b) The status of making a gate at the intersection of Lyford Road and Old Governor's Road for the Town Preserve. Rich?

c) Calvin Kinville, the Eagle Scout, completed his Service Project work around the middle of July on the roughly one and one-quarter mile trail from the Cottle Hill log yard to the Rail Trail, intersecting the Rail Trail close to Sadies Pool (aka Hobo Junction). Since then, I have walked the trail at least ten times with our two yellow labs, and it is an absolutely wonderful job. It is not meant to be a smooth trail like the Rail Trail is. When walking Calvin's trail, it is important to look down as you walk since there are roots, stumps, holes, and rocks that can easily trip you up.



Left photo left to right: Calvin's mother, Calvin's grandfather, a friend, Calvin

d) I put together some thoughts about Calvin's trail that we should consider:

1) We need to reposition some rocks on the Cottle Hill entrance since it appears a four-wheeler can fit between the two middle rocks. Should we put the town sign in that gap?

2) Should we see how the Cottle Hill parking area works out, currently fitting three or four cars, and then expand as necessary or desired?

3) What will be the plan for the upkeep of the trail?

4) The CC should walk with clippers and loppers to clear branches that have grown into the trail. I have already paid attention to the section from Cottle Hill to Old Governor's Road. Pat and his wife, Janice, said they would be taking a "lopper" walk also.

5) There is about a 30-foot rock section shortly before the intersection of the trail with the Rail Trail. Calvin filled in the wet area with rocks, but they are not stable. The space between the rocks needs to be filled in or we need to move the rocks and figure another way to address the wet area.



6) Should we put a railing on the bridge? Insurance issue?





7) Calvin's mother was thinking of putting together a newspaper article which would advertise the trail. I asked to please see it before it is submitted so that we may have some input.

8) Calvin's mother would also like to get a plaque made, and I asked her if we could have input in that also.

9) Where should the kiosk go? At the parking area rocks? Or across the log yard where the trail formally begins (Calvin's mother thought the latter would be her preference).

10) What should we call the trail? The Blue Trail since Calvin put up blue markers? After a deserving current or former town resident?



11) We may need some wooden walkways in several wet areas where woodchips are not adequate. One shortly before the bridge, for example.

12) I think a laminated paper in the kiosk should list the names of all the people who worked on the trail.

13) There is still a pile of woodchips at the edge of the field, and I told Calvin it was ok to leave it there as we could use the chips to place in wet areas.



14) We should look into making drainage ditches on certain parts of the trail, especially the downhill at the beginning, to help direct water off the trail instead of down the trail.

15) Calvin incurred bills totaling \$262.03 for the supplies to build the bridge (Nails \$15.55, Bridge Deck boards \$167.58, Beams \$78.90). We should reimburse Calvin for these material (check made out to Chris Kinville).

6) Selectman's Report

7) Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 2

8) Close meeting