

Town of Plaistow

Town Hall
145 Main Street
Plaistow, NH 03865



Conservation Commission

Chair B. Jill Senter

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Meeting Minutes

November 5, 2020

7:00 PM

Second Floor, Town Hall

1. Meeting opening: At 7:06 PM by Jill Senter
2. Roll call: Present: Jill Senter, Tim Moore, Charles Blinn, Olaf Westphalen
Excused: Dave Averill, John Blinn (Selectmen's Representative)
3. Review/approval of minutes - postpone
4. Deb Gourd – SELT. Town Forest trails. Deb passed out several variations of trail maps reminding everyone that her primary purpose is to make sure the trail network is consistent with the goals of the Conservation Easement.

First handout shows 6 trail options as follows:

1. 7.5 mi of trails. 35 ac and 70 ac open space.
2. 13 mi of trails . almost no open
3. 10 miles of trails. About 20 ac in center, 30
4. about 7 mi of trails. 90ac in southeast, 22 acers PHA boundaries.
5. 6.5 mi trails 175 ac open, 200 ac including off property.
6. 7.5 mi trails 84 ac southwest, 60 ac at heron rook, 100 ac including off property.

Deb met with NH Fish & Game and NH Cooperative Extension.

50' buffer – reptiles

150' buffer – birds.

400' buffer for mammals. Existing already used to people.

Focus on 50' and 150' buffer.

Other examples 10 miles of trails in forests of 1500 to 2000 acres.

Deb appreciative of our working with SELT to finalize trail plan. Will extend SELT help for trail & sign help.

Olaf – choice between 4 and 6.

Brent – Lew report – doesn't show perimeter trail. Prior meeting – trail network from Ward hill. Wants to stick with #3. Forest management will cause more harm than trails.

Brent reported that one of the bridges he built would be part of option #4.

Deb – forest management – OK. Does not have long term impact on wildlife. Lot of species not seen on a typical hiking visit. Recommends #5 and #6.

Olaf – Motion made to select #4, making sure cross-country path is intact, plus the Atkinson access. Tim – second. Vote 4-0-0.

5. Old Business

- Forest management – Meeting with Charles Marino, Moser, Jill Senter and Charles Blinn. Eric Mitchell did survey of town forest. Moser saying road can only be 12 ft wide. Mitchell – right to access property in reasonable fashion. Logging trucks are included as part of the reasonable fashion. Senter noted that some of banks have eroded. Moser has concern about her driveway. Loggers will be responsible for repairing damage that would be caused to her driveway. Mosers understand the logging is coming and are trying to work with the loggers.

5. New Business

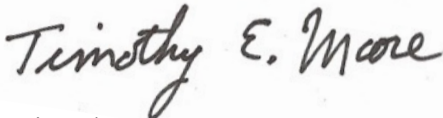
- Jill reported the former Klinetski property has sold and the new owner might be interested in selling a portion of the property that abuts the Town Forest. The Commission came to a consensus that we would offer the new owner a maximum of \$25K - \$30k for the property.
- Wetlands ordinances. Jill provided examples from Exeter & Portsmouth
- Jill reported the BOS reduced Conservation Commission budget.
- Next meeting date – January 21, 2021

6. Communications

- Review information in the Conservation Commission mail folder. No new information.

7. Meeting adjournment: At 9:00 PM by Jill Senter

Respectfully submitted,



Timothy E. Moore
Secretary, Plaistow Conservation Commission