Kensington Conservation Commission

December 1, 2020

Zoom Meeting due to Covid 19

Members Present: Sydnee Goddard, Bob Gustafson, Andrew Roberts, Pam Holland, Courtney Prenata, Joan Skewes

Call to Order: 7:30 p.m.

1. Moulton Ridge Conservation Land – It is anticipated that the closing will be by the end of 2020. Syd is meeting with the Selectboard to decide who is going to sign the documents. Cindy Heal has written a great article about the easement work for the property which will be submitted to the Community Newsletter by January 15th. The article about the forestry work at Hodges will be also be submitted.
2. Bridge from Trundle Bed to Hodges– Syd completed the application for wetland disturbance to DES for the bridge from Trundle Bed to Hodges. Next course of action would be to obtain an estimate for the construction of the bridge.

1. Stone removal from Hodges – Syd noticed that the gap in the wall has been narrowed which will help stop the dumping of yard waste onto Hodges. The Society for the Protection of NH Forests, who are the easement holders, suggested that the gap be closed. The Society also indicated that the Selectboard is the ultimate enforcers of the easement.
2. No Hunting Signs - no current update with signage to be placed on Hodges and adjacent properties. Syd walked the York easement with SELT. Easement language also states No Hunting. The Commission discussed the need to post the York property as well.
3. Pollinator Pathways – Syd has collected wild flower seeds and the Commission discussed how to organize seed give-a-way in February / March with Covid-19 concerns. Possible self service station.
4. Trimble Trail – The Commission discussed that the Trails Committee would like to blaze the trail however the boundaries of the easement need to be marked first. Pam to flag the boundaries based on the map. Syd walked the trail which leads to conservation land at the end of Rose Petal Estates. This property also needs to be posted for No Hunting. The Commission discussed the location of a game camera and hunting stand on the conservation easement.
5. Other business – Syd exchanged emails with a resident regarding hunting on conservation lands formerly owned by Briggs now owned by Lewis. Property is open to the public.

Budget – Syd attended the Selectboard meeting. The Commission spent $800.00 in 2020 which is more than what the Commission designated in their budget. $195.00 was allocated as a Commission expense for Public Notice, invoice paid to Seacoast Media Group for posting a public meeting. Also the Commission voted to allocate $100 to Exeter River Local Advisory Committee (ERLAC) however the invoice amount was $200 which the town paid. The Commission will review ERLAC annual report and discuss at a future meeting how much to include in future budgets. Given the need for additional No Hunting signs, the Commission voted in the affirmative to increase the budget to $1,000.00. Out of those funds, yearly contribution to SELT, NH Association of Conservation Commissions, and ERLAC will be paid. Additional funds in budget will be available for any future public meetings in 2021 and the purchase of No Hunting signs.

Beaver Deceiver on Moulton Ridge Road is no longer working. The Commission discussed that beavers have made an impact throughout the town and discussed whether placing bridge at access point across the stream is a possibility. The Commission will check with the town as to how beavers are being managed throughout the town.

Mail – Thank you letter from SELT for contribution and SELT newsletter.

November minutes have been approved as revised.

Meeting adjourned.