

Nelson Conservation Commission Meeting, Thursday, June 28, 2018
Minutes
Draft

7:00 pm

Attending: Richard Church, chair, Kathy Schillemat, Robert Germeroth, regular members, Rebecca DiGirolomo, Anne McBride and Zach Pearo, alternates. Gary Robinson and Tom Newcombe were absent. Michael Tarr, Road Agent, was in attendance.

It was moved and seconded to accept minutes, of May 24.

In mail, Rick noted that we had received notification of three applications for culvert replacements from DES, two Granite Lake Road, one private and one from the state highway department, and one on West Shore Road on Granite Lake. He said that there were no issues that he could ascertain and passed the applications around for review.

Rick noted that there is work required by the LWCF grant that needs to be done by end of 2018, or an extension asked for if the work will not be completed. The work includes kiosks, parking lots, forestry management plan, and trail to top of Osgood Hill. He will contact Bill Gegas to see about an extension for the forestry management plan, since the Conservation Commission has selected Meadowsend, but work will not start until the spring of 2019. He will also ask if the trail from Kulish Ledge to the top of Osgood will fill the new trail requirement, or the new trail flagged between the beaver pond and the top of Osgood Hill will work. Kiosks and parking lots should be done by the end of 2018.

Report of site visits on June 18 to scope out parking lots and work on road on Homestead Lane and Brickyard Road access road by Rick. Parking lots sites have been selected. (Note: attendance at site visits to Brickyard Road and Homestead Lane: Rick Church, Kathy Schillemat, Rob Germeroth, Mike Tarr, Janet Yardley and David Voymas)

The parking lot on the Brickyard Road access road will be in an area which is roughly cleared (low vegetation) on the left side of the road.

To improve drainage on the access road and alleviate the beaver problem, Mike recommended replacement of the 24 inch culvert on Brickyard Brook. He recommended a precast concrete culvert of a larger size. This can wait-needs DES funding and could be funded with grants (ARM funding). Those in attendance at this visit looked at the road above the culvert. There is some erosion. Mike suggested that it wouldn't take much to take care of this. But neither the culvert nor the road above the culvert will be improved at this time.

On Homestead Lane: David Voymas attended this site visit and recommended a parking lot farther up beyond "hunter's parking lot". Mike concurred with his recommendation. The road will be improved from the intersection with Old Stoddard Road up to the parking lot.

Mike recommended doing more to get the road in better shape so that it wouldn't need much maintenance for up to eight years.

The total costs for Brickyard Road: \$4,375; Homestead Lane: \$14,075. Michael explained the scope of the project (details attached).

There was some discussion on where the money will come from to maintain the roads and parking lots? If the town voted to do so, it would hopefully come from a future Timber harvest. In the near future, conservation funds would be used.

Kathy moved that the work on the roads and parking lots as proposed by Mike Tarr be accepted at a cost not to exceed \$18,450. Rob seconded and the plan was approved by unanimous vote. The project will be funded by conservation funds.

Mike agreed to start work this summer. When work starts on Homestead Lane, abutters will be invited to tour and learn scope of work.

Kiosks: Bill Dunn has offered to build if we provide materials. Standardization re: size exists. A map of the land with trails, notices, Park Service sign, and the name of land are elements to include in the kiosk. Rob will look at some possibilities and bring them to the next meeting.

Signage on Homestead Lane: Rick suggested that we work with neighbors to determine other signage along Homestead Lane. Kathy agreed to do this.

The contract with Meadowsend has been approved by the SB.

Name for the town land: Anne shared some information regarding the question of "town Forest" designation. Management is by either a town forestry committee or the conservation commission. Does money from a town forest timber sale go back to the land? Needs a town vote.

After some discussion of the names proposed by townspeople, the commission settled on "Partridge Woods." We will consider this for a month and decide at July meeting.

Discussion of lead sinker disposal boxes was tabled. It was felt that we had no good place for a box and that education is key. It was suggested that we consider having a program on loons and the problem with lead sinkers. Perhaps we could collect lead sinkers at the program. Tires are a bigger problem. Rick and Val van Meier collected 17 tires on Hardy Hill Road and 11 were collected from the wetland on Granite Lake Road. Rick will write an article on the issue for the Grapevine. Rebecca mentioned that state conservation officers would help with enforcement, if we asked them.

Kathy reminded members that all are invited to the Nubanusit Lake Associates Annual Meeting on Friday, July 6, at the Harris Center from 6:00 to 9:00 pm.

Adjourned: 8:22 pm.

Kathy Schillemat