

Jefferson Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
18 February 2020

1. The meeting began at 7 PM. Present and constituting a quorum were Nancy Decourcey, Jamie Savage, and David Govatski. Charles Muller was working out of state and excused.
2. The Building Permits were reviewed and no wetland conflicts noted.
3. Nancy and David will be attending a workshop on Trails with Wildlife in Mind run by the NH Fish and Game in Lancaster on 4 March from 6:30-8:30 PM. Jamie may also attend depending on his sugaring schedule. There is no fee for this workshop.
4. The Saving Special Places conference is on 4 April in Alton, NH. Dave plans to attend and Nancy is a possible attendee. The commission voted to approve the expenditure for the conference and workshops which is \$65 per person.
5. The NH Association of Conservation Commissions sent us a bill for the 2020 calendar year for \$200. We negotiated a lower payment based on our spartan annual budget. We voted to approve the payment on the condition that the town budget is approved at the March Town Meeting.
6. The NH Association of Conservation Commissions annual meeting and workshop series is on 4 November. A session agenda will be available in a few months.
7. The 21 April Conservation Commission meeting will be an informational meeting on the Pondicherry Wildlife Refuge. Staff from the US Fish and Wildlife Service have been invited to present information on the refuge and upcoming projects. Other partners such as the NH Trails Bureau and NH Audubon have been invited to present updates on the refuge. The Select Board approved the use of the Town Hall for that program that will run from 7:00 – 8:30 PM.
8. The Rail Trail from Route 115A to Airport Road through the Pondicherry Wildlife Refuge will be worked on by the Trails Bureau starting in June. We will find out more details in April at the informational meeting. We may see some temporary closures on parts of the trail during the two work weeks.
9. The Conservation Commission is assisting with a trailhead clean-up day on the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day on 22 April 2020. There are seven trailheads that will get a Spring cleaning. We are looking for additional leaders to green up some other scenic views in town including the overlook on Route 2. A White Mountain Community College environmental science class will be assisting with the clean-up.
10. The Conservation Commission voted to hold a field trip for the May meeting to the Town property behind the school to look for the old nature trail that was built a couple decades ago by Adele Wood's son as an Eagle Scout project. Nancy is in contact with Adele for information on the trail. There is no plan to rebuild it but this might be a suggestion if the field trip finds it worthwhile. Any work would need to be approved by the Select Board who are looking at future uses of this property.

David Govatski, Acting Secretary
20 February 2020