

## Roxbury Conservation Commission

11/18/16

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

Present: Michelle Drogue, Barbara Neylan, Leith Robidoux, James Rousmaniere, Alice Funk

The 8/23/16 minutes were read, edited on the hard copy and approved.

Leith Robidoux was officially appointed to the Commission by Jim Rousmaniere.

Rails to trails idea was briefly discussed, questions about who owns the right of way, liability issues, etc., and it was suggested that the snowmobile club that has improved trails in town may have information on that.

Our mission statement was discussed. Questioned whether once decided upon is it permanent? Advice is that the statement can be revised as needed. We will look at it and decide at the next meeting. We will get the master plan from the selectmen to see if any wording applies to the mission statement.

Michelle verified a document that lists us as an official member of the NH Association of Conservation Commissions. Michelle attended a conference at Stonewall Farm and has information from this meeting which she will email to us. Dues is waived for the first year and then we will see if the Town will approve a budget for us. Barbara asked what is provided in exchange for this dues. Michelle says she has information on that.

Jim says to send a letter to the selectmen with info requesting to join the NHACC for 2017 ahead of the budget hearing so this amount can be incorporated into the town budget from the start.

Michelle says there is a meeting of the Cheshire County conservation Commission on 10/25 at the Keene Country Club. Suggested \$20 donation, topic of lecture is Coyotes. Also annual meeting of NHACC, Tom Wessells is speaking. Info on that will be emailed to us. The Town can reimburse us if we want to go, let selectmen know. It is best to figure out what we might spend in a year so a budget can be formed for next year for us to draw from.

Jim says there is a current use event/course at the Walpole town hall on 11/29, 9-12. This should be informative on protected lands, conservation easements; Roxbury has a significant amount of acreage in current use and it may be relevant to any discussion of conservation.

Natural resources inventory: at the last meeting this was listed as a "must do" project by

the NHACC. On the We are, NH website there is an extensive report to view. Amy Bodwell has had Jeff Littleton do this on her property. Jim says the Keene watershed property has been inventoried so we should not need to duplicate that effort; check with them first. Will someone ask Mary Ann Kristiansen if she would advise us on grant writing.

Ewe will need to provide a report to the Town annual report. Please let Michelle know if anyone is willing to do that. jim suggests calling other towns to ask how they started.

Alice suggests we all commit to calling specific towns to glean info regarding their inventories and share this at the next meeting:

Leith- Swanzey

Alice- Chesterfield, Nelson

Michelle- Sullivan

Barbara- will check with Mary Ann re/ grant writing

Ask questions such as:

Do you have a conservation commission?

Have you done a natural resources inventory?

How did you start it?

Is it of the entire town?

Can we see it?

Who did this for you?

How financed?

Michelle will get contact info for Jeff Littleton

Next meeting scheduled for 12/13/16 at 6pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alice Funk