

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
DECEMBER 14, 2016

PRESENT: Bob Boynton, Chairman, Lisa Oden, David McTigue, Jack Messe, Matt Oliveira, Kleta Dudley (SoRLAC representative) Karen Miller, Lori Rautiola

The meeting was called to order at the Town Office at 7:30 p.m.

The minutes of the November 9, 2016 meeting were reviewed and the following corrections were made: In the second paragraph under Lands change 1700 to 1710. Forth paragraph down take out the last part of the sentence that reads... "not necessarily in the ordinance because...every time the maps are updated." Lisa made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. David seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Trails: Bob was informed by Betsy Cook from New England Forestry Foundation, that there has been unauthorized OHRV's making new trails on the New Ipswich Mountain property. This is not a designated use of the property. Bob asked for suggestions on handling the situation. The members conversed and concluded that David will do some research and find some inexpensive signs to post on the property that read "Town Property- No OHRV'S".

Communications: Bob mentioned an email he received from Daryl Burnett, Executive Director at Northeast Wilderness Trust and they are looking for roughly \$25K to help cover transaction costs. Bob noted he has reached out to Daryl but has been unsuccessful in speaking with her. He would like to know what the contribution would go to, the Northeast Wilderness Trust, or helping in the purchase of the land. He also noted concerns for the maintenance of the class VI road on the property. Kleta suggested Bob send a letter to her stating his concerns and Bob agreed to speak with her and report back to the Commission.

Lands: Bob gave an update on the old landfill on Page Hill Road. He stated The Selectmen did not approve the \$1600 in the budget for water testing, however the Commission has funds available to cover the cost if it is decided to move forward with water testing. Bob noted \$1600 would cover water tests for four households.

Bob displayed a map on the projector showing the location of the old landfill and the surrounding house lots. Matt suggested in order to determine which houses to test, the Commission should look at the direction of ground water flow and closest residences. Bob would like to find out the exact location of the landfill. Matt suggested finding aerial views online through Environmental Data Resources. The Commission conversed about the process to move forward and decided the best way to address the situation would be to inform the residents of the situation by sending a letter. Matt agreed to draft a letter to residents providing he has all the background information on the land. David noted the Commission should consider surface water as well. A nearby stream would be a good choice to test.

The meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Rautiola
Land Use Clerk