

Conservation Commission Minutes DRAFT
Nov 4th, 2019
5:30 PM, Town Office

Present: Bill Terry, Ken Kimball, Brian Byrne, Mike Dufilho, Pam Smillie, Jeff Sires Hank Benesh filmed. Note: Susan Ross-Parent took notes watching Hank Benesh's film.

Review Minutes - corrections: none and approved

New Business - see following

Prospect Farm - Brian met the Ballantine family (owns the land at end of Carter Notch Rd where JSTF has parking)– had a good chat about the history of the area. Discussion about the agreement for parking. Mike noted that he met Mr. Ballantine and that they do prefer that the JSTF lot not be used for parking in the non-snow season. Discussion of cutting schedule in the Prospect Farm orchard – hasn't been done this year.

Jackson Falls - Ken moved more chips. Good work. Suggests getting more in the spring and something more substantial to rope off areas for revegetation. Bill notes that plastic and twin has gotten ripped out immediately. Try to find something durable, matching the area. Feedback will be mixed, but it is best practice – educate the public for why it's there. Mike is scouting out interpretive sign designs. Suggested a map of Falls, parking, access points, carry in carry out guidelines, etc., will complete a mock up soon. Wants to keep this first sign visitors see as they get out of their cars simple with the basic info. Maybe more interpretive signs farther in – natural and human history – touch base with Historical Society. Long term consideration: will the split rail fence stay (had been initially planned to be temporary) ? It seems to be working and defines the parking area. There's a break in the fence that seems a natural place to put the information kiosk.

Gray's Inn -no new business

Conservation Easements - CC is sending out the letters instead of the Selectman's office. Assignments for Jeff? Will consult the file when they have the key. CC walks the properties that the town owns the easements on. Discussion of the Holcomb land – owned by JSTF – but SPNHF holds the easement – so CC may be responsible to walk this property and report via SPNHF website. Another one on Carter Notch – off Melloon Rd.

Wetlands - no new business

Annual Report - need to get started

Public Comment - none

As always, the public is encouraged to attend and share their vision for the use of Jackson town properties and other conservation priorities. Our meetings are typically at 5:30 PM at the town office building on the first Monday of each month.

Respectfully submitted, Susan Ross-Parent