

**Town of Jackson Conservation Commission**  
**Minutes - March 1st, 2021 - Regular Meeting**  
**- UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED**

**Call To Order:** Jeff Sires, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M. Attending were Members Jeff Sires, Ken Kimball, Ben Halcyon, Mike Dufilho, Brian Byrne, Pam Smillie, and Selectman's Representative Dick Bennett. Public attendees included Ellen Chandler and Hank Benesh. Audio and video recorded via the Zoom platform will be made available on Jacksonflicks.com.

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the February 1st meeting had not been completed at time of meeting. Members agreed to review and approve those minutes at the April meeting.

**2021 Appointments and Positions:** Chairman Sires mentioned that terms for Members Seidel and Byrne would end in 2021. Member Byrne stated his intent to stay on with the Commission but could not speak for Member Seidel, who had not yet joined the virtual meeting. Chairman Sires stated that, two months prior to the meeting, he had been forced to relocate temporarily but was working to find permanent residence in the Town of Jackson. He stated his desire to return to Jackson and remain on the Commission but voiced his concern about his residency becoming a conflicting issue. Selectmen's Representative Bennett recommended that Chairman Sires maintain his position as Chair for another six months or until the circumstances around his residence became clearer. Members agreed with Selectmen's Representative Bennett's suggestion and agreed to revisit the issue after six months, while Chairman Sires stated his intent to update the Commission on his circumstances.

Selectmen's Representative Bennett asked whether the Commission had plans to appoint an Alternate Member and expressed interest in becoming an Alternate once his term as Selectman ended. Chairman Sires asked if the Commission could move to appoint an Alternate, and Selectmen's Representative Bennett answered that the Board of Selectmen would need to be petitioned to appoint him as an Alternate. Member Smillie confirmed this answer. Member Kimball suggested that the Commission send a letter supporting appointing Selectmen's Representative Bennett as their Alternate.

**Prospect Farm:** Member Kimball gave a progress report on the composition of a draft for the general management plan for Prospect Farm. He had done some research on the National Forest rules about hunting after the questionnaire discussed at the previous meeting had revealed some disconnect about the practice of hunting on Prospect Farm property. Drawing from those rules, he had drafted similar rules regarding hunting into the general management plan. Member Kimball had also researched rules concerning the use of e-bikes and explained some potential impacts of their use on trails. Through some discussion with the Commission, Member Kimball

decided not to include any language about e-bikes in the draft until he could speak with the Forestry Service and hear their opinion on the matter.

**Jackson Falls:** Member Smillie asked if any Members had any interest in doing more planting at Jackson Falls and proposed that any interested parties state their intentions at the next meeting. The Commission agreed to consider the idea at their next meeting.

**Dundee Forest Project:** There were no updates to this matter at time of meeting.

**Wildcat River:** There were no updates to this matter at time of meeting.

**Gray's Inn:** Member Kimball noted that, at the Planning Board's most recent meeting, some mention had been made of prior planning to use property behind Gray's Inn for housing, although said planning had not resulted in any action. Chairman Sires considered reaching out to the Planning Board to stay involved in further developments, and the Board agreed.

**Conservation Easements:** There were no updates to this matter at time of meeting.

**Wetlands:** There were no updates to this matter at time of meeting.

**New Business:** Chairman Sires gave the Commission an update on the Saco Headwaters Alliance's upcoming presentation, which would be attended by the Commission, the Planning Board, and the Board of Selectmen. The presentation was planned to be made at the Commission's upcoming meeting on April 5th.

**Public Comment:** Public attendees did not express any public comments for non-agenda discussion.

**Other Business:** Member Byrne motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Member Smillie seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Will Reisig