

**Town of Jackson Conservation Commission**  
**Minutes - September 13th, 2021 - Regular Meeting**  
**- UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED**

**Call to Order:** Jeff Sires, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. Attending were Members Jeff Sires, Ken Kimball, Mike Dufilho, Ben Halcyon, Brian Byrne, Pam Smillie, and Alternate Dick Bennett. Member Tom Seidel informed Chairman Sires he would be unable to attend. Public attendees included Hank Benesh. Audio and video recorded by Hank Benesh will be made available on Jacksonflicks.com.

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the March 1st and July 12th meeting were reviewed. **Member Kimball moved to approve the March minutes, and Member Dufilho seconded. The motion was approved unanimously. Following this vote, Member Kimball moved to approve the July minutes, and Member Halcyon seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.**

**Prospect Farm:** Member Kimball led a discussion on finalizing a draft of the General Management Plan for Prospect Farm. He updated the Commission on information about e-bikes, including their classifications. Alternate Bennett asked the Commission if they should consider adding language to the draft concerning regulation of guided e-bike tours. Member Dufilho proposed that the draft include language to the effect that the Town “reserves the right to create a special use permit for guided trips that originate and terminate on Town lands”. Member Kimball suggested a more general statement that “commercial use on Prospect Farm requires an agreement with the Town of Jackson”, and the Commission agreed to its addition to the draft. Member Kimball stated he had decided to remove the background information about the stump dump and had added information about the fireworks ordinance. In addition, he added a recommendation in the Cross-Country Skiing section to negotiate an agreement with the Jackson Ski Touring Foundation regarding maintenance of Prospect Farm. Finally, he chose to append the results of the Commission’s questionnaire from late December 2020/early January 2021. Member Kimball recommended that the Commission vote to accept and present the draft to the Board of Selectmen for their input. He also recommended that the draft be presented with the question of whether the draft ought to be placed on the town warrant in 2022 or be accepted at that level as a policy. The Commission agreed to suggest to the Selectmen that the Management Plan be added to the 2022 town warrant.

Member Kimball stated his intent to finalize the draft with the discussed improvements and then present it to the Board of Selectmen for consideration. Chairman Sires stated his desire to join Member Kimball for that presentation. **Member Byrne moved to approve Ken’s plan to move forward with the General Management Plan, and Member Dufilho seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.**

**Jackson Falls:** Chairman Sires proposed that the Commission schedule a make-up day for working at Jackson Falls after having it postponed. The Commission discussed where to work and what kind of work ought to be done, with consideration to foot traffic and to changing weather conditions. Chairman Sires stated his intent to send out a poll to determine the date and time of the work day, and Member Smillie stated her intent to arrange for supplies such as wood chips. Chairman Sires explained he was in talks with a contractor to determine when the informational kiosk could be installed at Jackson Falls.

**Gray's Inn:** There were no updates to this matter at time of meeting.

**Wildcat River:** Member Dufilho reported his application for the Tin Mountain Wild and Scenic Grant had been approved for educational and restoration work on the Wildcat River, a collaborative effort between multiple Jackson organizations including the Commission. The grant would fund trips for Jackson Grammar School students to visit various sections of the river in spring of 2022.

**Conservation Easements:** Chairman Sires reported that letters had been sent out and reminded Members of their individual responsibilities for the rest of 2021.

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

**New Business:** Member Smillie proposed starting a community garden. The Commission was receptive to the idea, but Member Kimball suggested posting the idea through eNews to determine the general level of public interest in aiding such a project. The Commission

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

**Other Business:** Alternate Bennett moved to adjourn the meeting, and Member Smillie seconded. The motion was approved unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 7:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Will Reisig