

Town of Jackson  
Conservation Commission Minutes  
Regular Meeting  
October 4, 2021 - 6:00PM  
(Unofficial Until Approved)

Present: Jeff Sires, Chair; Ken Kimball, Ben Halcyon, Pam Smillie, Alternate Dick Bennett and Mike Dufilho.

Chairman Sires called the meeting to order at 6:07 P.M.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Ken Kimball made a motion to accept the September 13, 2021 meeting minutes as written, seconded by Dick Bennett. All approved.

**Prospect Farm:**

Chairman Sires will confirm that the Commission is on the Selectmen's Agenda for October 12th to present a Draft of the Prospect Farm Management Plan. The Selectmen all have a copy of the draft, so Ken Kimball suggested reviewing the process and development of the plan with the Selectmen, which started with a questionnaire. The Commission then reviewed the relevant Wills and Town votes in order to draft the Plan. Next, they will need to follow up with a public hearing in November (once the Selectmen have had a chance to comment on the Plan). Then the final part of the process will be a vote at Town Meeting.

Dick Bennett mentioned that there may be discussion at the public hearing regarding Prospect Farm being open to the general public, or open solely to Jackson residents. Ken Kimball had read in the Baker Will that the land was to be used for recreation, and reads that it would be a public park and part of the Forest Reserve, which would indicate general public use.

Mike Dufilho joined the meeting.

**Jackson Falls:**

The planned workday to spread sod at the Falls will be tentatively planned for Thursday, October 14th from 4-6 P.M. Dick Bennett asked if gravel had ever been considered where the wood chips normally go. He spoke to someone that said the wood chips are more difficult for individuals with handicaps. If any changes were made, approval would be required through the permitting process. The Commission will review the location of the handicapped parking to see if there may be a better spot.

**Gray's Inn:**

Ken Kimball walked some of the trails and noticed some fallen logs that need to be cleared. He said Jackson Ski Touring may cut them when they do their trail work. Ken recalled that Brian Byrnes mentioned he could clear the ones that are not on the ski trail system.

**Community Garden:**

Chairman Sires said that he has received emails from close to ten people who have expressed interest in participating in the garden. Pam Smillie will be organizing this project. A location still has to be determined. The initial location idea was behind the Town Office.

**Wildcat River:**

Mike Dufilho mentioned that students from the Jackson Grammar School will be taking field trips on October 15th and October 22nd to both Prospect Farm and the Wild & Scenic Wildcat River. They will be learning about the river, as well as how different groups (such as property owners and the Conservation Commission) manage the same resource.

Ken Kimball mentioned that the apple trees at Prospect Farm need pruning in March every year, and maybe that is something the Jackson students could also participate in with Jackson Ski Touring.

**Conservation Easements:**

Ben Halcyon and Mike Dufilho are working on their easements. Mike just mentioned that the property he is working on has buried all of the power lines.

**Wetlands:**

Chairman Sires stated there is nothing new to report.

**New Business:**

**Chairman Sires made a motion to pay the annual membership fee of \$250 to New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commission, seconded by Pam Smillie. All approved.**

The Annual Conference for this Association will be held via Zoom on November 6, 2021 for any member who may want to attend.

The members discussed changing the meeting time from 6:00 P.M to either 6:30 or 7:00 P.M. They ask the members who were unable to attend for input.

**Ken Kimball made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded and all approved.**

Respectfully submitted by Erik Atwell

**To view the full video recording of this meeting visit [www.jacksonflicks.com/Jackson](http://www.jacksonflicks.com/Jackson)**