



Mason Conservation Commission Minutes – D R A F T

June 11, 2014
7:00 pm to 10:00 pm

In Attendance

- Bob Dillberger
- Liz Fletcher
- Bob Larochele
- Barbara Devore
- Anna Faiello
- Ann Moser

Voted unanimously to accept May minutes.

Liz moved we pay **Cornerstone Excavation \$975.00** for Harley raking at Greenville Rd. to restore hay field, money to come from Conservation General Fund. Passed unanimously.

Liz moved we make our **bond payment of \$10,518.13** from Land Protection Fund in payment for the Mitchell Brook Conservation land (B-15-1). Passed unanimously.

Discussed whether or not it makes sense to keep our funds with NHPDIP. The low interest rate and red tape associated with moving money suggests we'd be better off depositing our money with a local bank. Rob moved we ask the Town Treasurer to **move our conservation funds from NHPDIP to People's Bank** creating four accounts, one per conservation fund. Liz seconded. Passed unanimously.

Bob L. reported on meeting with Dennis LaBombarde re. fixing up an access road at the quarry. Also asked Dennis about recommendations for parking areas. Might be able to create parking on town-owned land at end of Scripps Ln.; will need to hire an engineer to investigate to know for sure. Regarding the access road, Dennis found a stone culvert at the northern end has collapsed, causing the current flooding. First step is to repair the culvert. But road is still probably too low and needs to be raised. Decided to seek three contracting firms to prepare recommendations/estimates for both the parking area (both potential sites) and the access road. Work shall include surveying (need at least topo for parking area) and applying for all relevant permits (esp. wetlands permit). Identified Sanford, Fieldstone, and Monadnock as potential bidders. Liz will prepare a RFP to present to potential bidders.

Still awaiting word on the ordinance covering quarry regulations. It's in the Selectmen's hands.

Regarding the conservation easement for the 4 town-owned parcels around the quarry, Brian Hotz of SPNHF has advised that the Coyne parcel may not be able to be included in the easement unless Coyne heirs can be found, because the 1972 deed has a reverter clause. Town Counsel William Drescher is now reviewing all 4 deeds and title opinions and the applicable conservation easement based on the Mason Quarry Conservation Easement. Liz will contact him about progress on this.

Next quarry clean-up: June 28 @ 9 AM. Barbara will notify our previous group of volunteers. Need to guarantee at least one tractor.

Rob discussed meeting Amos White to point out knotweed infestations along the southern end of the RR trail so Amos can do the ditching (discussed previously). Rob will contact Amos for this before our next meeting.

Wolfgang Milbrandt requested that we look at the region of the RR trail between Pratt Pond Rd. and Wilton Rd. to consider repairs. Wolf says a point within that area has developed some pretty bad dips and needs to be graded. Liz suggested we talk to selectman Bernie O'Grady. (The road crew has historically graded the trail as needed). We might also ask Amos White to do this work while he's doing the ditching on the south end. Bob L. will discuss this work with Amos (or Al Williams of the Winter Wanderers).

Bob L. will talk to Eric (Cornerstone Excavation) about installing the gates built for us by Bob Bergeron. Can't install the quarry access gates for a while yet (pending access road and parking construction) but can install gate at Mitchell Brook Conservation land any time. Another option: Winter Wanderers have offered to install the gate at no charge. Bob L. will discuss with Eric and WW. Liz noted it would be good to install the gate at Mitchell Hill closer to the road than the current gate so neerdowells can't back in and dump trash.

Re. Old Ashby Rd. property: Ann volunteered to contact Dennis Graham just to check in, particularly to ensure all repairs are handled and the property's in good shape.

Barbara passed along a request to post the PPT slides from the NRI presentation on the town web site. Bob D. will take care of it.

The Commission wishes to thank the selectmen for the new printer which just appeared tonight. It works great!