



**Mason  
Conservation  
Commission  
Minutes – D R A F T**

Dec. 9, 2015  
7:00 pm to 11:00 pm

**In Attendance**

- Barbara DeVore
- Bob Dillberger
- Anna Faiello
- Liz Fletcher
- Bob Larochelle
- Ann Moser

Voted unanimously to accept November minutes as amended.

Still no letter from DRED rescinding permission to KM/TGP to survey on the RR Trail. Will send another reminder.

Met with Sarah Siskavich & Ryan Friedman from NRPC. They came to discuss a program involving HNH Foundation to fight childhood obesity. They'd like to catalog parks and playgrounds and other opportunities for recreation. NRPC intends to add this info to their online maps. They'd like to get GIS data for Mason trails to add to their data set. The Cons. Comm. will discuss how to proceed at our Jan. meeting. The feeling is that the "rating" of most Mason trails is "N/A" since there is little maintenance done. We agreed to use the conservation area map to form a list of public access trails to be considered. Nothing would be released for public access until they get our approval.

Met with Bill Downs to discuss logging on the eastern half of Spaulding Brook conservation land (roughly 50 acres). Bill "kind of agrees" with John Nute's recommendation. A biomass harvest will allow us to remove more low-quality material than alternate harvest methods. The contractor determines the nature of the forest products produced, saw logs being most desirable and chips least. Bill would like to take a more focused look at the site to develop an inventory and a set of specific recommendations, and would like to involve John Nute to get his opinion. Bill described various harvest methods. Single-tree selective thinning seems the best for us, with a TBD number of small clearcuts for wildlife and age class variation. Commission members will be walking the area for a closer review of the standing timber. Bill Downs agreed that we should mark trees to be saved and be involved in pre-cut planning of skid trails for best outcome.

Bill provided us with a copy of his service agreement to consider. He needs a signed agreement to proceed. Barbara moved we sign the service agreement. Passed unanimously and signed by Bob L.

Voted to pay \$100 to G.W. Shaw & Son, Inc. for a dumpster at road cleanup day from Conservation General Fund. (After an inquiry, they reduced the price from the original invoice.)

Gratefully received an anonymous donation of \$1,000 to cover costs associated with the Nose Meadow Schwenk land gift to be deposited in the Land Protection Fund. Thank you, anonymous donor!

Decided to accept Marsha Beecy's priced of \$1,800 for the appraisal of the Crathern land gift.

Reviewed and discussed Application for the lot line adjustment of the Nose Meadow land gift from the Schwenks. Will discuss further with the Planning Board on Dec. 30. Intend to file application in Jan. 2016.

Discussed the shooting target on B-17-4 about 50 feet from conservation land. The target has an inadequate backstop and the line of fire points toward the conservation property, yielding a potential safety hazard for someone walking on the conservation land. Will discuss moving the target and/or adding adequate backing with police chief before approaching landowner.

Discussed ADA OPDMD policy.