



Mason Conservation Commission Minutes – D R A F T

June 16, 2018
7:00 pm to 10:57 pm

In Attendance

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

Voted unanimously to accept May minutes as amended.

Discussed the issue of camping at the Mason Quarry. In response to a request for a camping permit, the BOS and Fire Chief have raised several concerns, including sanitation and fire. The CC would like to find a solution that allows camping with reasonable rules and restrictions. We'll draft a set of proposed rules, conditions, and guidelines.

Met with Jennifer Beck (Wilton CC). Jennifer brought us a gift in memory of Mason's 250th birthday: soil from Parcel G-3, an old mill site on Mason Brook, which Jennifer has decided to gift to the town (details TBD). Thank you Jennifer! Next step is to approach the BOS and ask them to approve the gift.

Met with Harry Spear from the Forestry Committee to discuss possible joint projects. Trail construction and maintenance seems a good candidate, as is control of invasive plants at the Greenville Rd. overlook. Regarding trails, we agreed that the following are top priorities: trail maintenance on the Potter homestead land, trail (re)construction, maintenance, and improvement (perhaps including a boardwalk over Spaulding Brook) on the Spaulding Brook Conservation Land, and trail repair on the Mitchell Brook Wilderness (possibly with another boardwalk).

The Bobs reported on a recent maintenance-oriented trip down the RR Trail. We cleared several downed trees. We also took a closer look at knotweed regrowth around Jackson Rd. We recommend not delaying the planned trail ditching and grading just because of concerns about spreading the small amount of knotweed. Bob D. has notified Lee Gilman of the regrowth; still waiting to hear if he'll come retreat the area.

RR Trail rededication ceremony scheduled for Saturday Oct. 13 at 2:00 PM at the Depot Rd. entrance.

Barbara reported on a discussion of the draft Conservation Plan at the recent Planning Board meeting. They (the PB) would like a presentation about the Plan in September, which should include a reprise of the NRI presentation.

Barbara reports the Ledger-Transcript will be publishing a special section about Mason the second week of August. Barbara will prepare and/or coordinate CC-related content.

Bob L. reports that plans for the 250th anniversary 5K road race are all set. Prizes will be locally made maple syrup.