

LEMPSTER Conservation Commission Meeting

November 9, 2022

4:30 @ Lempster Town Offices Rt 10

Meeting called to order at 4:30 PM

Members present: Phil Tirrell, Lynda Perry, John Nowak, Ivan Wallace, Mindy Chadwick, Scott Goodspeed, Rachel Tirrell

Secretary's report: accepted as read

Treasurer's report: accepted as read, current balance of \$12,876.93

Old Business:

- River Road: Neither Lynda nor Phil have heard from Stevens Construction after several calls even though they were told they would get right back to them and are interested in the project. Lynda will try again. Mike Hanson has a wooden bridge company in Washington NH, Lynda will contact him about the project. Her husband and Phil both believe steel I-beams could be used to span the river to accommodate hikers or horses. Jim Jennison, Acworth selectman, asked what the plans were for the trail because it connects to their hiking trail in Acworth. He was assured that it is not for ATVs, but being a class 6 road it should be made accessible to fire apparatus in case of a wildfire. Scott questioned the legality of money being spent on a class 6 town road. Lynda said she has spoken to authorities and grant money, donations or privately raised money can be used to improve roads and bridges on class 6 roads.
- Carbon Credits: Next cycle is not until fall of 2023. Eligibility reports will be sent out. John researched why the town was given such a low credit number. It has to do with the proximity to lumber mills which reduce the # along with public ownership of land, and the lay or topography of the land. There was more supply available with less bids from companies looking for credits.
- Trails: trees are down on both inner and outer Duck pond trails. They were heavily used this year. We voted to table buying a picnic table for the trail until spring.
- Intent to cut: there are several permitted locations harvesting timber at this time
- Orchard at Earl's Lane: it is a daunting task to get this orchard back in shape. Should we try to hire it to be done? Scott mentioned the people who worked on it years back "butchered the trees". Bill Walker hires his trees pruned each year, so maybe we should contact him about who he hires.
- The road clean up was a great success. Many large bags of trash were picked up along 2nd NH highway. Mindy suggested we try to get people and organizations to adopt roads by paying to put up adoption signs.
- Signage: people are parking on the road in front of Lady Slipper and Duck Pond Trails rather than using the parking lot, causing a road hazard. It was voted to purchase no parking and park here signs

New Business:

- There appears to be a need for gravel at both Dodge Pond and Long Pond, and a load of sand at Long Pond for the kids, placed back away from the water as was done several years ago. It was voted in favor that we pay for sand for the kids and some drainage under and around the pavilion at Long Pond.
- Mindy asked about the possibility of having some trails along the swamp area near the town property on Rt 10. Phil will approach the selectmen about the possibility.
- Mindy also wondered at the possibility of building a skating rink. She will approach the firemen about that idea.
- Ideas for next year:

*National Trails Day is the first Saturday in June. It was decided we should do some sort of celebration

*Look to hiring someone to prune trees at the Orchard

*Educational programs like Ben Killam's "Bears"

*Lady Slipper Trail needs more and better signage. There is also a nice waterfall that could/should have a trail to it off of Lady Slipper Trail

Meeting adjourned at 5:44 pm

Date of next meeting is December 14 at 4:30