



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

Feb. 10, 2016
7:00 pm to 10:00 pm

In Attendance

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

Voted unanimously to accept January minutes.

Regarding parking area for Mason Quarry, we need to clarify with the landowners if it's OK to proceed. They verbally agreed when we met them in Dec. 2015 but we didn't clarify the next step.

Met with George & Cathy Schwenk regarding the Nose Meadow land gift to clarify that the Conservation Commission is expecting Tom Quinn to prepare a new deed, to be billed to the CC. Need to communicate that to Tom. (Mr. Quinn's office apparently sent a letter to the Schwenk's indicating otherwise.)

Also, to make it official, Liz moved we accept the gift of the Nose Meadow lot from George and Cathy Schwenk. Passed unanimously. Now we need to send a note to the BOS indicating that no lot line adjustment is needed (confirmed by Attny. Quinn).

Met with Bill Downs to discuss pending logging operation on our Spaulding Brook land. Bill reviewed his inventory, harvest plan and map. Next step: Bill will apply for the wetlands permit from DES. Voted unanimously to authorize a **check for \$25.00 to Treasurer – State of NH** to pay for the wetlands permit (to come from the Conservation general fund). Also, we'll want to check with the BOS about possibly waiving the timber tax for this harvest. Agreed we'd like to tour the property now that it's marked. Planned date: Feb. 20 @ 10 AM.

Liz moved we make another **\$2,000 payment to the Society for Protection of New Hampshire Forests (SPNHF)** for the Mason Quarry stewardship fund, the money to come from the Old Ashby Road Fund. (We have a total commitment of \$10,000 and paid \$2,000 last year.) Passed unanimously.

Discussed commenting on the NHDES plan to create a bobcat hunting season. Given that the proposal is not for the benefit of the population or any other conservation-related purpose, we agreed to comment in opposition to the plan. Bob L. will submit our comments.

Discussed response from EverSource regarding the road built on Spaulding Brook Conservation Land. We believe that a road of this magnitude is in violation of the easement. The Commission voted to require that Eversource remove the road and workpad completely prior to loaming and seeding. We agreed their plan to loam and seed over the top of the road is insufficient.

Regarding mitigation options for wetlands damage from NED, agreed we need to compile a list of potential projects. DES rules now require that towns wanting mitigation funds must have a standing list of priority projects. Supplying the list to KM for inclusion in their DES wetlands application seems the better of two options, rather than applying to the ARM (Aquatic Resource Mitigation) fund ourselves where Mason will be competing with many other towns. Also agreed to speak with the BOS about engaging Kane Conservation to assist with this work.