

Meeting called to order in the BOS Meeting Room at the Milford Town Hall at 7:10pm

**Present:**

Full members: Audrey Fraizer, Chair; Andy Hughes, Janet Urquhart, Alternate members: Chris Costantino. Hub Seward, Kim Rimalover, Becky Lorette excused

Guests: Eric Johnson of the NH Timberland Owners Association, Brenda Santiago, Bill Burdett, Chris and Therese Muller, Maureen Bradley, Mason and Stu Fraizer, Joe Micozzi

**Minutes:** The approval of the October 2012 meeting minutes were tabled until the next meeting when more members are present.

**Discussion Items**

1. 4th Saturday Hike – led by Maureen Bradley at Brox. There were 6 people attending. Audrey will lead the November hike at Tucker Brook starting at the Boulder Drive entrance.
2. Ghost Train Trail Races – October 27-28
  - a. 165 runners – 113 for the Ultra, 20 of whom completed 100 miles and 2 completed 115 miles. There were 52 runners in the 15Miler on Sunday
  - b. Parking was handled very well by the volunteers ensuring that the runners were efficiently tucked into their spots
  - c. Runners really enjoyed the course and the race aid stations. According to the Facebook postings, they are already looking forward to next year's event
3. Chamber of Commerce Expo
  - a. Audrey, Becky, Brian Hawkins, Chris manned the booth talking to several dozen people passing out literature and trail booklets. Becky spruced up the display with new photos
  - b. Chuck Worcester of the Historical Society and the Heritage Commission talked to Audrey and Brian about the commission taking on the management of the trails at Monson. He is attempting to have the Monson Village designated as a National Heritage Site. Audrey contacted Society of NH Forests, as they are the landowners.
4. Eric Johnson of the New Hampshire Timberland Owners Association came with his More Than A Chainsaw power point presentation of the different methods of timber harvesting. It was a good presentation and offered an option that the commission could consider using conventional methods to harvest sections of the Tucker Brook where access is tight. Audrey will talk to Dan Reed about this and ask Eric Johnson for suggestions of loggers who will do conventional along with whole tree or cut-to-length methods. There were several abutters and others present for the presentation with many questions for Eric.
5. Chris will write up something for the Cabinet about the need for Commission members – we are short two members
6. Audrey has started the process of accepting the gift of the Rotch property from the Episcopal Church. She is awaiting direction from the town as to what needs to be done
7. Andy Hughes will walk the Kaley Park soon to determine the best location for a walking trail on the property. He will be coordinating this with Nicole Banks, Rec Director
8. Brox Environmental Citizens – Audrey and Chris have met with the coalition to understand its goals
9. Audrey signed the work order submitted by Dan Reed for the work he will do for the Tucker Brook Town Forest timber harvest.
  - a. She will write a cover letter to go with the signed contract.
  - b. Dan will negotiate the agreement with Dave Wheeler for access to the property
10. On a motion by AndyH, seconded by Janet, the commission accepted the proposal by Eric Radloff of Bay State Forestry to do a management plan for Mile Slip Town Forest after clarifying the payment schedule for follow-up meetings.
  - a. Chris will contact Eric to determine how many meetings are included in the \$10,000 quote.
  - b. We will not be hiring anyone to blaze the property – Mike Sebas and Steve Erdody, Trail Managers, have identified most of the marked bounds. Eric will flag as he walks the bounds
11. Mitchell Brook Property Auction

- a. After discussion, it was decided that this property is a valuable piece that the commission should attempt to purchase. It is contiguous to other purchased property (Pratt and Sherburne) and it is contiguous with approximately 1000 acres of unfragmented land in Milford, Mason and Wilton.
  - b. Audrey will talk to Ian and then to Guy about the purchase. The commission has about \$15,000 to spend on this.
12. A letter needs to be drafted and sent to new landowner on the Nye subdivision easement to explain the easement and how it will impact their use of the property. According to Dana MacAllister, Code Enforcement Officer, all flagging has been removed.
  13. Ask Rita Johnson, GIS Specialist, to make a map of the conserved lands in town by type – easement, open space, town owned, protected by other agencies. Chris will look for what may already exist.
  14. Chris will ask Fred Elkind, Environmental Programs Coordinator, to write a letter to close off the Stable Rd wetland violation.

**Meeting adjourned** at 9:40