

Milford Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes May 14, 2020 7:00pm Zoom Meeting Room

Present

Members – all participated via Zoom

Andy Hughes, Chair
 John Yule, VChair
 Janet Urquhart,
 Hub Seward,
 Audrey Fraizer
 Excused :Kim Rimalover, Anita Stevens , David Bosquet (Alt)

Rodney Dellafelice(Alt)
 Chris Costantino(Alt)

Town Representatives

Lincoln Daley, Community Development
 Director
 Arene Berry, Recreation Director

Guests

Harrison Fetter, potential new member
 Zac William, Dog Park Committee
 Peg Seward

Item	Discussion	Who Will Do What
1. Meeting Minutes approval	April 9 meeting minutes were unanimously approved on a motion by John and seconded by Rodney.	
2. 4 th Saturday hike	There will be no May hike – cancelled due COVID measures	
3. River Trail Conservation Easement	Andy, John and Chris walked the site for the proposed conservation easement (CE) on Map19Lot25-9. Most of the 6-acre site is good scrub habitat for birds along the Souhegan River. There is an existing maintained sewer line easement, which could be part of a trail along the River. Access to the site would be from parking on town-owned 127 Elm Street (M19L10) and would provide a location for a bridge to connect Keyes Field with the MCAA fields on North River Rd, part of the long-range connectivity plan. One of the reserved rights of the CE would be a 1-acre dog park to be maintained by the Town. The landowner of Map19L25-9 (Brookstone Manor Apts) is supportive of this CE. A title search needs to be completed first to ensure that existing reserved rights will not prohibit the CE or the dog park. After discussion, the MCC members unanimously supported a motion by Audrey and seconded by John to “provide up to \$2500.00 to pay for a survey of the proposed CE so long as the CE moves forward despite the construction of the dog park and that the title is clear for a CE on the property.”	
4. Trail activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rogue trails have been constructed at Patch Hill. Janet and Chris have spoken to persons who know those responsible. The members will continue to monitor the trail. Perhaps the signage near the Amherst Town line can be replaced. Andy and Chris will take a walk on the trails in the near future. There may be some vandalism occurring on the Mayflower Trail near the water tank. Audrey will take a look and report back to the group Chris has notified Eversource who will investigate and remediate the open gate at the power lines at Tucker Brook. This Commission will post a No Unauthorized Motorized Wheeled Vehicles sign, exact location TBD Tree down at Rotch. 	<p>Audrey, Andy and Chris will continue to monitor the trail</p> <p>Chris to re-contact Eversource</p> <p>Install sign</p> <p>DPW will remove the tree</p>

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The order and matters of this meeting are subject to change without further notice.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mike Sebas proposed new mountain bike trails at Mile Slip. The members viewed the map showing the location of the new trails. After discussion, the members agreed that Trails 1 and 3 seemed appropriate; but decided against Trail 2 (an alternate route to the summit along the northern border). • Friendship rocks are being exchanged by hikers on the trails. Peg Seward and Hub displayed some to the members. The MCC members are glad that people are finding encouragement and peace on the trails and painted pebbles are a good thing in these trying times. 	Chris to inform Mike of the trail decision
5. Town Forests	<p>Mayflower Hill - Boundary replacement is complete and invoice processed.</p> <p>Tucker Brook – The members were asked for their opinion about allowing remote plane club activities in the fields associated with Tucker Brook TF on Savage Rd. The members decided that it wasn't a good location for this activity.</p> <p>Mile Slip – replace the gates that were damaged and look again at the habitat restoration to the north of the parking area.</p>	Chris to notify Lincoln that that remote plane club needs to find another location.
6. Reports	BOSCE (Brox Open Space Conservation Easement) Audrey will have a phone conference with Betsy McNaughten of NH Fish and Game (NHFG) on Friday May 15. She will report to the members. Once we have a bit more information, it would be beneficial to meet with the BOS to learn of their intentions and whether we should proceed with the survey for the CE.	Audrey to report results of phone conference with NHFG Chris will send sample easements to Audrey
	Forest Management Plans updating project – Tucker Brook. On hold for the time being	
	Armory Rd /Rail Trail crossing – on hold until completion of the Melendy Crossing is completed	
	<p>Melendy Rd tunnel grant.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract with the state has been signed, delivered and acknowledged. • Rodney Richie, Bill Parker and Lori Kingston will be assisting with the logistics of this project • Only one culvert installer attended the mandatory pre-bid meeting on April 24. At Rick Riendeau's recommendation and with the concurrence of the one attendee, Chris prepared an Addendum #1 which waives the mandatory pre-bid meeting and extends the window for the operation from mid-June until September 1. This addendum was delivered by email to the 4 contractors. The RFP deadline is May 15 at 11:00. 	
	<p>Open subdivisions – place holders to check for changes</p> <p>Falcon Ridge – Monumentation of lots. Some of the lots have been monumented</p> <p>Spaulding – Monumentation and easement of the open space</p>	
7. Canoeing at Brox Community Lands	At least one canoe has been seen recently on Heron Pond. Three individuals have notified the MCC and have asked us to stop the activity. The members will continue to monitor the activity to ensure that the wildlife thrive while people have an outlet to exercise and experience nature. Town staff are discussing the potential of blocking the emergency access road that connects Heron Pond School to Perry Rd. Andy	

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	and Chris installed signs educating the public about the heronry and requesting that boaters stay away from the nests. Some of the signs have been removed and been replaced, only to be removed again.	
8. Upcoming Events	None	
9. Interdepartmental Review	None	

Meeting adjourned at 9:20pm

Next Regular Meeting – June 13, 2020 @ 7PM, Selectmen's Meeting Room.

2020 Meeting Dates: Feb14. Mar 14. Apr 11. May 9. June 11, Jul 9. Aug 13. Sept 12. Oct 8. Nov 12. Dec 10