

Webster Conservation Commission

13 September 2016

Present: MJ MacGowan, Linda Clark, Sally Embley, Chris Schadler, Bob Quinn, and BetsyJaneway

1. Appoint Secretary – Betsy Janeway was appointed Secretary.
2. Minutes from the July meeting were accepted as written.
3. Correspondence - Committee reviewed:

Forestry Notification on Mutton Road: no action needed.

Lake Winnipocket Project of Christine Connors tore pair rock wall under her dock: no action needed.

Pond Hill/West-Wind Village Roads' Culvert Replacement at the Lake's Outlet: Commission members will make a site

visit this Thursday, and at other times convenient to members, and will discuss at the October CC meeting.

Bashan Hollow Road culvert replacement and "Rain Gardens" - Discussed. No action taken.

4. NH Wildlife Coalition: Chris Schadler informed Commission about this group whose mission is to "Foster stewardship of NH's fish, wildlife, and habitat by expanding public participation in decision-making and a sustainably-funded F & G Dept.

Its goals are to replace the F & G Commission with an advisory council of recreational groups and other wildlife organizations; to advocate for sustainable funding; and to change the name from NH F & G Commission to the NH Fish & Wildlife Dept. to better reflect agency's expanded responsibilities and foster broader public participation and support.

Chris Schadler and Jeff Jones will be presenting a workshop on this subject at the Annual Meeting of NH Conservation Commissions on the first Saturday of November.

5. Northern Pass – NH Conservation Commissions may be asked to discuss Northern Pass at their town's annual meetings and to ask for a town vote on the Project, yea or nay.
6. Currier and Ives Byway: applies only to Route 127, and not to scenic roads in the town.

7. WCCTerms – discussed need for the chairs of our commission to know they do not have to be chairs forever. Chairwoman MacGowan would enjoy a rest as her work at YBS has increased. Ms Schadler volunteered for the position, and as she has considerable experience chairing CCs in Massachusetts and Kensington, NH, she was elected our new chair by acclamation. The Commission

expressed their enthusiastic gratitude for Ms MacGowan who has chaired the Commission for eleven years.

8. Next Event - Saturday, September 24th at the Webster School: a bird walk. If pond water levels permit, there may be a canoe/kayak paddle in the afternoon, probably on Lake Winnipocket.

9. New Business – Trail Maintenance on the Riverdale Natural Area will be held at 2:00 on Sunday, October 16th, with members of the Commission and their significant others invited to a potluck supper at Bob and MJ MacGowan's house on Clough & Sanborn Road afterwards.

10. Sharing Wildlife Sightings - a Greater Sandhill Crane can be seen in the fields near the school bus parking area in West Hopkinton; the MacGowans have a significant bat colony living in their large bat house; a mother bear with triplet cubs have been seen by several residents of Tyler Road.

11. Selectman Bruce Johnson came by with an armload of children's books, and asked for more from those of us with a surplus, to be delivered to the Webster School, for him to read aloud to the children.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

Betsy Janeway, 9/14/16