

**LANCASTER CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING
July 13, 2020**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Allan Ryder, John Accardi, Alan Carr, Kim Votta, Leo Enos (Selectmen's Rep) and Rob Christie.

Don Frenette arrived at 7:20 pm.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman John Accardi.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPOINTMENTS/PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

SELECTBOARD REPORT – L Enos

1. L Enos asked what the projected revenues from the Town Forest will be. It was stated that in G Ainsworth's report he projected \$50,000-\$75,000 which includes the timber tax. J Accardi said it will probably be on the lower side because of the market price for wood.
2. L Enos asked if Conservation Commission has any plans to replant in the town forest. The reply was not at this time.
3. L Enos asked if there are any plans to plant trees in town. The reply was no.
4. L Enos asked if there will be any request in the 2021 budget for the town forest. R Christie stated that the Conservation Commission will work on budget in September. There will be approx. a \$5000 expense in the budget that will be reimbursable from the Town Forest Fund. Expenses are outlined in G Ainsworth's report.
5. Dow Tree Fund was discussed. The fund was rolled into the welfare budget because it was inactive. Can the CC get that money for tree planting?

OTHER BUSINESS

Meeting Focus: Natural Resources Inventory proposals

Three proposals were submitted. Elise Lawson, Ecosystem Management Consultants – Rick Van de Poll and Moosewood Ecological LLC – Jeffrey N Littleton. Allan Ryder prepared a spreadsheet comparing the proposals. Several board members agreed that Elise Lawson had done more local projects, has a good knowledge of the area and will spend more time in the field.

Moved by A Ryder and seconded by R Christie to hire Elise Lawson to prepare the Natural Resource Inventory for the Town of Lancaster.

Motion carried.

R Christie will contact each of the people who submitted a proposal.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by A Ryder and seconded by K Votta to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2020 meeting.

Motion carried.

Moved by R Christie and seconded by J Accardi to approve the minutes of the June 24, 2020 meeting.

Motion carried.

Review current and/or pending applications, projects, NHDES and NHDOT matters

None

R Christie advised that he had received an email from Will Abbott regarding a movement to assemble a list of all conservation easements in each town to include the contact person and local steward.

Treasurer's Report

R Christie reported that the only expenses were for copies of the NRIs, copies of town files and clerk expense for 6/8 meeting. No money has been spent to date for scholarships or conferences.

The river walk was discussed. Is there an interest in reopening it? It might be a good project for the Conservation Commission.

K Votta suggested that the community survey be shared with E Lawson.

L Enos suggested that maybe the scholarship money could be used to present a scholarship to a WMRHS graduate pursuing a career in conservation

R Christie noted that there are grants for signage to encourage the use of an area – Riverwalk.

Calendar and Planning Cycle: 2020 Easement monitoring letters

R Christie reported that the letters are ready to go out. He said he has heard from K Scobie and B Southworth. K Scobie advised that she would like to put up a greenhouse type structure and wants to be sure it conforms to the easement. B Southworth advised that there is a small structure on the property and he wants to be sure it conforms to the easement as well. R Christie advised them that the Conservation Commission will look at it when they walk the easement.

Southworth Easement – will offer 7/22 or 7/29 at 5:30 pm as dates for the easement monitoring.

TOWN FOREST

R Christie stated that G Ainsworth's report suggested that a survey and boundaries lines be done for the town forest. He said he approached D Doolan but he was not interested. R Christie said he spoke to A Nadeau and he said he would do it as a public service.

Moved by J Accardi and seconded by A Ryder to approach Andrew Nadeau to ask him if he would create a survey map and plot defining the boundaries of the Town Forest.

Motion carried.

OSI grant for town forest – R Christie will write to Julie Evans to get the final report and ask her if she would attend a Conservation Commission meeting to discuss her findings.

Moved by A Carr and seconded by J Accardi to start Conservation Commission meetings at 6:30 pm like all the other town boards.

Motion carried.

Next meeting – August 10, 2020.

Moved by L Enos and seconded by K Votta to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried - meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Jean Oleson

Approved:

Clerk

John Accardi, Chairman

DRAFT