

**Town of Bennington
Conservation Commission
Minutes of Meeting - September 17, 2014
Minutes Approved:**

Present: John Baybutt - Chairman, Valerie Germain, Jon Manley, and Joe MacGregor

Agenda

- 1. Placement of ID Markers**
- 2. Minutes**
- 3. Budget**
- 4. Library and CC Co-sponsoring Guest Speaker**
- 5. Other**

1 1.Placement of

ID Markers - For the first part of the meeting, the members present placed ID Markers in Forest to correspond with Bruce Edes Memorial Forest map and plant/tree ID guide prior to the walk on Saturday. Nine out of the eleven posts were put in place atop rebar and Valerie will return Friday to complete the last two.

2. Minutes - Minutes from the August 21, 2014 meeting were reviewed and accepted as written

3. Budget - Members present discussed submitting the 2015 budget to Kristie for the same amount as 2014. CC members present also want to request that the line items be changed to the following: Keep the CC Dues and Subscriptions (\$200) and CC Office Supplies (\$50) line items but the remainder of the requested monies be placed in a line item named General Conservation Purposes/functions/scholarships.

b) Members also would like to check with Dee and Kristie to ensure that any remaining funds in the CC budget be encumbered and deposited into the People United Bank Account set up for the purpose of purchasing Town lands for conservation.

c) With remaining funds, the CC will purchase a Stihl Powerhead tree trimmer with saw base and chainsaw capabilities

d) Valerie Germain expressed an interest in attending the Annual Meeting of the NH Association of Conservation Commissions on November 1, 2014 in Laconia. Members present approved the request. We will request a check from the Town to be sent to the NHACC along with a mileage request after the Annual Meeting

4. Library and CC Co-sponsoring Guest Speaker - Leslie inquired whether the CC would be interested in cosponsoring a guest speaker with the library. The speaker's name is Kevin Gardner who has written a book about New Hampshire stone walls called Granite Kiss. Members present agreed to co-sponsor the event and would share in costs if any.

b) Discussing involving a Town sign board was discussed so that various committees, groups, and Town Offices could advertise upcoming events. We will pass this on to Dee French.

5. Other - Jon Manley provided a River Committee update. He shared that there is a new Paper Mill Representative, Brian Mallory, along with a new Chairman, Janet Renaud. He also informed us that participation level has increased and the Committee feels revitalized. A focus on Aquatic Invasive Species is an area of interest for the River Committee as well as the Bennington Conservation Commission.

There being no other business at hand, the meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by

Valerie Germain
Bennington Conservation Commission