



## **Bennington Conservation Commission**

*Caring for the Land and Cultivating Community since 1989*

**September 19, 2024 6:30PM**

### **Minutes**

***Call to order:*** 6:31PM by Mike Munhall

***Attendance -*** Zach Allen, Jane Butler, Joe MacGregor, Jon Manley, Mike Munhall

***Minutes:*** Zach moved and Joe seconded approval of minutes, passed

***Finances:*** Balance of budget: \$900.14

***Mail:*** NHACC Newsletter Annual Meeting registration available

### ***Reports***

- NHACC - Annual Meeting November 7 at Pembroke Academy. Registration is \$60
  
- River Committee - Joe and Jon
  - In discussing common issues with other town reps, it is apparent that other towns have communication issues with their town officials as well.
  - Hillsboro has built a trail to the confluence of the Contoocook and North Branch Rivers.
  - Rindge is doing some effective millfoil remediation.
  - HArris Center has purchased the islands in Powdermill Pond from the Monadnock Paper Mill.
  
- Town Hall - Tom James - not present

### ***Old Business***

- Antrim Road/Bible Hill Triangle - Update -
  - Joe, Jane and Mike rototilled the soil, fertilized and spread grass seed. It will require daily watering until it is established.
  - Joe and Mike bought two Fyre Light hydrangeas for the triangle. It was MOVED by Jon that we buy one more hydrangea. Passed Unanimously.

- Edes Forest Annual Walk - a dozen or so expressed interest on Facebook but in the end only Commission members and family came. Still it was a good walk for those present.
- Review of Salamander talk. - Outstanding talk by Jenn Sutton, Pierce School 3rd grade teacher. She was engaging, enthusiastic and full of great information about salamanders. Good turnout of about 25 people.
- Upcoming talks -
  - Moose October 9
  - Climate November 7

***New Business***

- Forest and fallen trees - Forest Work Day - It was noted on our forest walk that there were a number of fallen trees needing clearing from the trails. OCTOBER 26 is chosen for a forest work day.
- Bennington Trail - Work needs to be done to improve the switchbacks on the trail. A specific work day wasn't chosen.
- Trail cam with Pierce 4th grade - Val Germain has asked that the BCC help the Pierce School 4th grade purchase a trail cam so that the students can monitor the animal activity in the Forest. She will have a more formal proposal next month. Zach mentioned that any cam now needs to be identified with a notice stating that it is not for hunting.

***Membership*** - Do we need another member?

***Upcoming Calendar Items to Note***

- October 9 Wednesday Moose talk 7:00PM
- NHACC Annual Meeting Nov 2

***Next Meeting October 17 ANNUAL MEETING***      Zach reappointment  
    Think about new goals

- GOALS FOR 2024 - adopted October 19, 2023
  1. Establish a property conservation easement educational program to help residents decide to put their land into conservation or common use. Look into providing financial assistance to those wishing to do either.
  2. Make a greater effort to get a website operational.
  3. Perambulate Greenfield townline and complete the Deering townline.
  4. Monitor water quality in town waters and look into remediation of current issues.

5. Continue work on the Bennington Trail and build a parking area at the trailhead.
6. Do more educational programming on environmental issues and history.

Adjourned 7:28PM on a motion from Joe MacGregor, seconded by Jane Butler

Recorded by Mike Munhall