Conservation Commission Meeting May 2, 2019

Members Present: Shirley Green, Sue Hagerman, Alan Strickland, Dolores Struckhoff, Terry Terry, Jerold Theis, and Jay Welenc.

Alan called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

Approval of March Minutes

The March Minutes were approved with the following corrections:

Input from Jerry: Recommended we discontinue using Mr. or Ms. Page 4, under intent to cut, make intent to cut a heading. Put intent to cut at the end, change Adolphson to Cone. Change Mr. Strickland to Mr. Cone.

Put Kurt's letter in quotes.

Dolores Struckhoff moved to accept March Minutes as corrected. Shirley seconded. The vote was all in favor (6-0). Jay abstained.

Approval of April Minutes

The April Minutes were approved with the following corrections:

Input from Alan: Page 4 middle of the page: The land in question belongs to the UVLT – remove this line. Page 5: Replace the last two sentences with "The parking lot is clear of ice and debris and is now open." Page 5: middle sentence under 6 change "gam" to "game".

Jay made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected. Jerry seconded. The vote was 6-0 in favor with Sue abstaining.

Snowmobile Trail: Paul Currier concerns plus Commission's recommendation.

The site visit was performed. Alan stated his thoughts.

Sue Hagerman shared her thoughts followed with a letter to the Board of Selectmen addressing the overarching principle that this is unauthorized taking of public land and trespass.

Alan wanted a little more time to review and submit the letter.

Town Wildflower: Merchandising, Paintings in Town office, Library, and DPW? Joan Thompson's estimate \$295 and she can have it to us by the first week in July. We would have all copyrights to the design.

Alan stated that he would be willing to help pay. Dolores thinks that we will be able to have something printed in time for Old Home Days.

Dolores Struckhoff: EVA Town Clean up – May 18, 9:00 am – Noon, meeting in Lakeside Park at 9:00 am. Just bring yourself!

She also suggested future involvement in the lake and river clean up and to reduce plastic bag and other plastic use in Town. Basically, Dolores would like us to support not using plastic in the town. She would like to have a longer discussion about having this as a warrant article at next March's Town Meeting. Keep on agenda. Dolores will contact Kim Quirk regarding EVA addressing businesses directly and Board of Selectmen regarding a town ordinance for this.

Park Bench: Details for bench overlooking Mascoma River at Town offices. Dolores found the same bench as the Mascoma Bank purchased across from Huse Park. It is traditional and can be in cedar or redwood.

Sue Hagerman made a motion to proceed with spending an amount not to exceed \$800.00 for the memorial bench and plaque. Shirley seconded the motion. The vote was all in favor 7-0.

Natural Resources Inventory:

Alisa has added a link to website. We may need to expand this inventory but this is tabled until a future meeting. Jerold distributed a natural history inventory. There in contained an article on conservation management. Jerold discussed the inventory and the article on conservation management. The commission would like an official letter for Jerold to attend to get information for this committee: Dolores will write a letter to the Planning Board and Ryan for Alan (under Alan's name) that indicates Jerold will attend for the sole purpose of gathering information.

Jerold suggested that a member of the Conservation Commission be involved with the Town's strategic planning through 2023. Sue would like to find out from Ryan to see what is the appropriate way to engage with the town strategic planning. The Planning Board should also be aware of the conservation land and the ordinances that govern them. Jerry asked that the members of the commission look over the strategic planning document and let him know where we can make the most influence.

Dolores suggested that we go to Julie Huntley for the tax sheets.

Sue Hagerman left at 8:15 pm.

Harris Brook: Intruders

Correspondence: Strickland to DES Seta Wetzel with update on Enfield Post Office vernal pool, 4/13/19, no egg masses, 4/20/19, 20 wood frog egg masses. Seta said she would add this information to the file.

Old Home Days Conservation hike:

The Old Home Day Conservation Hike will begin at 1:00 pm on July 28 at the Colette/Bicknell Brook Trail on the Boys Camp Road and end at the Grafton Pond Trail, 2+ miles one-way. This hike will be in honor of the 25th Anniversary celebrating the founding of the Colette/Bicknell Brook Trail. The hike will be easy to moderate; there will be a car shuttle available at Grafton Pond Road parking area to return to Boys Camp Trail Head. Refreshments will also be available in the meadow at Grafton Pond Road. Call (603) 632-4084 for more information.

Conservation Trivia:

Vernal pool on Shaker Mountain, labeled VP SM5 data: 5/2/15: 5% ice on surface area, 25 Wood Frog egg masses, 5 salamander egg masses. 5/2/19: 5% ice on surface area, 25 Wood Frog egg masses, 300+ salamander egg masses.

Terry made a motion to adjourn. Dolores second. The vote was all in favor 6-0.

Alan moved to adjourn at 8:24 pm.