

Whitefield Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
September 5, 2019
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Chairman Frank Lombardi called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Members Present: Frank Lombardi-Chairman, Donald LaPlante-Vice Chair, Edith Worcester, Marsha Lombardi and Tina Wright-Secretary

Members Absent: None

Guests Present: None

Frank asked Tina about Marcia Hammon's Oath of Office. She told him that the oath has been created and the Selectman will sign next Monday the 9th. Mrs. Hammon can be sworn in at the next Conservation Commission meeting.

Donald LaPlante moved to approve the minutes as is from the August 14, 2019 meeting. Seconded by Marsha Lombardi, no further discussion, all in favor, motion carries.

Whitefield Nature Walk Trail-

The Conservation Commission talked about the trail and what everyone thought of the current trail. All are happy with it. Discussed some names for the trail, Don suggested Stone Bridge Trail. Frank said at the last Selectmen's meeting he attended about this trail there were two items they wanted checked in to , first was permission from the railroad to have access and the second was to make sure the town's insurance was ok with this. The Conservation Commission reviewed the map of the trail together and all have agreed to keep that back side of the trail out of the plan for now. Don wrote a letter to send to Patric Herlihy at the New Hampshire Department of Transportation to ask for permission to access a part of the railbed for the trail. There are approximately 700 feet of track that the trail would need to have access to. The Conservation Commission emailed the letter to Mr. Patric Herlihy. (see attached letter) The Conservation Commission discussed signs and trail markings. Frank suggested the high school art class could be involved and create signs. Don mentioned the forestry group could come down and point out and highlight different trees and plants on the trail. Frank showed a picture of the Littleton Conservation Commission sign for the Dells picnic area to give ideas. Valerie suggested that the trail should be very well marked, making it easy for people to follow. Spray paint trees on each side of the trail, having maps available for people that show the topography of the trail.

Planning Board Update:

Frank updated everyone on Butch and Marion Rexford's project on conserving their land. Last August, Rebecca Brown from the Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust- ACT had come to the Conservation Commission requesting support on this project. Butch Rexford and Larry Rexford had attended the September 10th meeting to start the process for a lot line adjustment and a merger. Sarah Doucette also was at the last Planning Board meeting to talk about the Casella landfill.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, October 9, 2019 at 4:30 p.m.

Adjournment: Valerie Yelton moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:35 p.m., Edith Worcester seconded, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Tina L. Wright- Secretary



Frank Lombardi- Chairman



Whitefield Conservation Commission
56 Littleton Road
Whitefield, NH 03598

Date: September 5, 2019

Patrick Herlihy, Director of Aeronautics, Rail and Transit
New Hampshire Department of Transportation
John O. Morton Building
PO Box 483 | 7 Hazen Drive
Concord, New Hampshire 03302-0483

Dear Mr. Patric Herlihy,

I am writing on behalf of the Whitefield Conservation Committee. We are working with the Whitefield Board of Selectmen on a project that will create a hiking/nature trail within a mile of the Whitefield common. Main access to the trail will be from behind the Whitefield town office where parking will be available. We hope to develop the trail so that it can be used for educational purposes, recreation, and provide residents and visitors with a glimpse of the wonderful natural resources available in this area.

My purpose in writing to you today is to inquire about the possibility of us using the railbed for a small portion of our trail. We are enclosing a map that shows (in yellow) the portion of the railbed that we need to use. We appreciate your consideration of this request and would be happy to respond to any questions that you may have.

Sincerely,

Donald A. LaPlante, Vice Chairman
Whitefield Conservation Committee
Whitefield Town Office
Whitefield, NH. 03598