

March 21st 2019 Winchester Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes

Present: Gus Ruth, Bonnie Leveille, Norm Sims, Jon Baldvins, John Hann, Paul Hubner, Joe Faloretti, Mim Johnson.

Meeting was called to order at 7:04PM.

Jon made a motion to have all alternates as regular members. John seconded. Motion passed.

February meeting minutes were reviewed. Norm made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Jon seconded. Motion passed.

Membership

A discussion was held on membership and those members whose terms have expired. Gus had asked those members to be present to state their intent about being reappointed.

The following members were present and wished to be reappointed:

Jon Baldvins- regular member

Bonnie Leveille- regular member

Paul Hubner- regular member

Norm Sims- alternate member

Tom Turant has not yet returned from Florida but will remain on the WCC. The WCC had no response from Ben Kilanski who has been too busy to attend meetings. Ben is currently Treasurer and BOS rep for the WCC. A discussion followed in this regard. Mim made a motion to request that the BOS re appoint the members present who had requested reappointment, including Tom when he returns, and to request that Ben state his intent. Jon seconded the motion. Motion passed,

Bonnie will write a letter to the BOS stating the WCC's decision and motion.

Canoe/Kayak Take outs

A discussion was held on possible spots to launch or take out kayaks and canoes. The added recreation would be a plus for the Town. Several possibilities were brought up including across from the VFW, the oxbow with access across from the DeCarlo's property on the Old Westport Road and the Cole Pavilion. Norm also said his property would have good access.

Signage was discussed including the need to have signs both on the road and on the river.

Bonnie Leveille
Gus Ruth

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Also discussed was safety as the river approaches dams and rapids as the river approaches Hinsdale. It will be important to not have an access close to where the river might be dangerous downstream from the access.

AmeriCorps Trail building opportunity

Gus presented material related to having an opportunity offered by AmeriCorps to do trail building, where we would present a project and a team of AmeriCorps folks would come and do the project. The material provided cost and requirements. The five day offer was the most affordable. Gardiner Mountain trail work was suggested. The program is currently booking into the Fall. The WCC will continue to look at the feasibility of utilizing this opportunity.

Motion to adjourn at 8:15PM.

Submitted by:

Bonnie Leveille, Secretary