

Bartlett Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes: 11/10/21

Members Present: Chris Fithian, Mike Morin, Steve Frackleton, Jesse Jameson

Also Present: Colleen Ryan

Meeting Time: 6:05 –7:10pm

Mail and Communications

- Stilling's Meadow Update- NHDES required Contractor to do remediation. We received "monitoring report" over a several month period. DES has approved the updates made and this project is considered "wrapped up."
- Chris is looking into the possibility of NHDES communications sent to the newly established Conservation Commission email address. We may need to get paper copies as well.
- NH Association of Conservation Commissions- Chris is making sure that bill gets paid for us to keep our membership for another year
- Email received from Carrol County Conservation District about a Fedco seed plant sale fundraiser for the Conservation District. Chris will get the attached PDF posted to our website to share.
- Received notice from town about annual budget submission and town report.

Budget Discussion

- Budget/Draft Warrant Article- last year we requested the same budget as previous years. This reminded Mike about our previous discussions around a Warrant Article to propose funding from land use exchange taxes. Last year we were too close to Town Meeting when this was brought up to do much, but we would like to start pursuing this. Mike suggested using draft language from NH Association of Conservation Commissions to draft an article, then we would need to collect signatures and work with the Selectboard. Mike will review the process and update everyone via email for next steps, and asked Chris to begin engaging with the Selectboard.
- Line Items in budget- Commission needs some clarity on what the current line items in the budget are intended for specifically. We need to review current items and explore identifying new line items for potential project work.
- Chris wants us to make sure we are clear with our path towards budgets and our proposed Warrant Article with the Selectboard looking forward.

Annual Report

- Chris is looking for help getting a first draft of the annual report going. Things we might want to include: funding opportunities/Warrant Article, encourage people to check our website for

updates on things like the seed sale and other local happenings that pertain to the Commission. Chris will start draft and get it sent around.

- Jesse raises idea of a potential Facebook page for the Conservation Commission as another means to share updates like these. Potential issues are that there are no staff members dedicated to social media for maintenance and monitoring. Colleen adds that social media tends to be how people communicate these days, as opposed to looking on a website. As a new resident Colleen expressed difficulty in finding pertinent local information for someone who is new in town. Chris suggests someone doing research into what other towns might be doing along these lines and Jesse offers to do research. Mike also suggests working with other groups who have a social media presence already, lists Tin Mountain Conservation Center as an example, to see if they can share information about pertinent happenings through their platform.

Other Business

- Colleen Ryan is present and interested in joining the Commission. She has a master's in forestry from Yale and has worked as an Environmental Scientist for the past 15 years across multiple projects. In this role she has also worked with many Conservation Commissions and local Land Trusts in Maine. The Commission encourages Colleen to apply to join.