

Town of Farmington  
Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, January 11, 2017

**Commission Members Present:**

Dave Connolly, Chairman  
Bill Fisher  
Laura Bogardus  
Patience Taylor

**Commission Members Absent:**

Richard Ballou, excused  
Resta Detwiler, excused  
Rose Muise  
Randy Orvis, excused  
Charlie King, Selectmen's Rep.

**Others Present:**

Henry Wilson School Counselor Sarah Gould  
April Allard  
Kyle Allard  
Andrew Fast, UNH Cooperative Extension

**1). Call to Order:**

Chairman Connolly called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

**2). Pledge of Allegiance:**

All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3). Intro of Newest Member:**

Members welcomed new member Patience Taylor as an alternate member of the Commission. Due to the lack of a quorum of regular members Mr. Connolly asked Ms. Taylor to sit on the Commission in place of one of the regular members.

**4). Barry 4-H Presentation:**

Henry Wilson School eighth grade student Kyle Allard came before the Commission to tell the members why he is interested in attending the Barry Conservation 4-H Camp this summer. He told the members that he was a Boy Scout previously and likes camping and hunting and would like to learn to do these things better. He added that he plans to be a Game Warden when he grows up.

Chairman Connolly then told him the Commission would send him to camp during the "North Country Adventure" week which focuses on all aspects of being an outdoors person. He said he applauded the young man's interests and efforts and noted this is the fourth year the Commission has sent a Henry Wilson student to the 4-H Camp.

Mr. Connolly then said there are a few stipulations in accepting the camp sponsorship- attend the Commission's Hay Day booth and a monthly meeting and report his experiences.

Members then posed for photos with the student.

**5). UNH/Andrew Fast:**

Andrew Fast, Forester with the UNH Cooperative Extension came before the Commission to request help with the Town and Community Forest Inventory Project. The purpose of the project is to locate and map town owned land and make the information available to the public. He said the last inventory was conducted in 1980.

Mr. Fast said Town owned lands of 10 acres or more can be included in the survey and the information will be used to augment the GRANIT website which currently contains State and Federal mapping information but no Town owned land mapping. He said the information is being gathered to create a record of Town owned land and how it is being used. There is no specific reason for the survey other than to provide more information to Towns so they can do what is best for them he said.

Mr. Fast said he was looking for an interested volunteer to assist with the inventory and that he would like to begin the process as soon as possible as the deadline for completing the inventory is in March.

Mr. Connolly then pointed out the current Town owned conservation lands on a map supplied by Strafford Regional Planning Commission and noted the "Big 3" parcels in Town which include the Town Forest (160 acres with a management plan), Dubois property (200 acres with a management plan) and the French property (60 acres with a marked hiking trail).

Mr. Connolly suggested that Barry Keith of BH Keith Associates would be a good source for information on the properties as he is involved in developing their management plans. He also suggested the more long term members such as Vice Chairman Randy Orvis and himself as information sources for Town owned lands.

Mr. Fast thanked the members for the opportunity to discuss the project and said he will begin by contacting Mr. Keith to obtain more information.

#### **6). Review of Minutes:**

December 14, 2016- No errors or omissions found.

Motion: (Bogardus, second Fisher) to accept the minutes as written passed 3-0-1 (Taylor abstained).

#### **7). Old Business:**

A). Farmington School Board Presentation- Chairman Connolly said he attended the last School Board meeting to discuss a proposal to assist with setting up a recycling program at the Town's three schools. He said one of the first things he asked the board was if there is an existing recycling policy for the district. He said he was informed that currently there is no recycling policy and they invited Cons Com members to assist with developing such a policy. He said the next Policy Committee meeting will be held on Friday, Jan. 13 at 10 a.m. at Valley View Community School.

Ms. Taylor and Mr. Fisher are scheduled to attend the meeting on behalf of the Commission.

B). 911 Designation Update- Mr. Connolly said he requested the Fire Chief begin the process of obtaining a 911 address designation for the Dubois property located off River Road. He said the request is in the works with the assistance of the State and the Farmington Planning Dept.

C). Any Other Old Business: None.

#### **Recess:**

Motion: (Connolly, second Fisher) to take a 10 minute recess passed 4-0 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 6:40 p.m.

#### **8). New Business:**

A). 2016 Town Report- Members reviewed the Commission's Annual Report written by

Chairman Connolly. A few typos were corrected and it was suggested to spell out the abbreviations such as FHS, FSB and HWS for more clarity of the content.

Motion: (Bogardus, second Taylor) to accept the report as amended passed 4-0.

B).Photo - Members then gathered for the photo to be included with the report.

C). Other New Business- None.

**9). FYI:**

A). Intent to Cut- the following Notices were received:

Farmstead and Meaderboro Roads- cutting 32 of 107 acres;

Sheepboro Road – cutting 30 of 60 acres;

Meaderboro Road – cutting 20 of 102 acres.

B). Wetlands and Non-Site Specific Permit – issued to NH DOT for bridge work on Main Street.

**10). February Meeting Date**: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 at 6 p.m.

**11). Any Other Business**: None.

**12). Adjournment:**

Motion: (Bogardus, second Taylor) to adjourn the meeting passed 4-0 at 6:50 p.m.

Respectively submitted

Kathleen Magoon

Recording Secretary

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David Connolly, Chairman