



Mason Conservation Commission Minutes

April 8, 2009
7:00 pm to 10:05 pm

In Attendance

- Paula Babel
- Bob Dillberger
- Liz Fletcher
- Bob Larochelle
- Ann Moser
- Stuart Sherman

Voted unanimously to accept March minutes.

Regarding RR Trail clean-up, Liz proposed we schedule a survey with relevant local orgs. (such as MANE) to discuss dividing the work. Liz will contact MANE and Bob L. will contact the Winter Wanderers.

Liz summarized the results of LCIP monitoring with Steve Walker. On Ted Steward easement, found all corners except one (drill hole along the road). North boundary needs better marking, and an open well needs filling or covering. Also looked at B-17. Found abutter's stuff and OHRV trails on wrong side of property line. Boundary needs to be clearly marked. Bob L. suggests signs on posts at 25-foot intervals. Liz volunteered Garth to help Bob L. with this project.

Dave Baker approved the latest version of the hay lease from Ann. Now it needs to go to town counsel for review. Ann will send it to Si. Assuming he approves it, we'll notify Dave to return to sign it ASAP. Dave also volunteered to plant a couple sugar maples along the road where the old trees were removed.

Met with Barbara Devore regarding the upcoming public-education programs in the Florence Roberts series, one about invasive plants and the other about landscaping with native plants. Barbara asked us to help with the set-up for the presentation on April 16.

Regarding the Potter homestead, Liz got rid of the rest of the hazardous waste. Bob D. and Stu removed the electronic paraphernalia. Liz will e-mail Charlie L. asking to remove the remaining tires. Bob D. suggested getting one more dumpster for the remaining stuff, including the metal. Bob D. will contact Dave Morrison about getting the road crew to dump their road clean-up stuff over the hill to bury the "dump" which seems a much easier solution than trying to remove the stuff (doesn't appear to be any hazardous material, just broken bottles and old food cans and such). It also doesn't look like the beams form a complete frame, which would interfere with the picnic shelter idea. What beams there are might be of value to someone, however. Ann will investigate options for the structures.

Discussed options for a gate at the Potter homestead. Bob D. suggested a steel cable attached to posts as a cheaper alternative to the style of gate we have on the RR Trail.

Received a rent check from Dennis Graham for the A-frame. Will forward the check to Barbara for deposit. Agreed to invite Dennis to our May meeting to report on and discuss repairs and maintenance work.

Bob L. raised the question of donating money to the Grapevine in response to their recent plea for assistance. We've used the publication heavily in the past and rely on it to help spread word of our activities. Stu moved that we send a **\$100 donation to the Grapevine** from our Conservation Fund. Seconded by Liz. Passed unanimously.

Regarding the Nat'l Resources Inventory, Bob D. suggested forming an official subcommittee and inviting other townsfolk to participate. Everyone agreed. Bob will draft a letter to the Grapevine after the manner used by the Planning Board to form the Workforce Housing Subcommittee.

Received a request for reimbursement for **Liz for \$27.87** in payment for a copy of Southwest Regional Natural Resources Inventory (see last month's minutes).

Ann reported on cost for engraved boulder signs for conservation areas. \$400-\$700 per sign, depending on letter size. We generally agreed that the cost is too high compared to the alternatives. Plus, not all properties have appropriate boulders readily available.