



Mason Conservation Commission Minutes – D R A F T

Jan. 11, 2012
7:00 pm to 10:30 pm

In Attendance

- Barbara Devore
- Bob Dillberger
- Rob Doyle
- Liz Fletcher
- Bob Larochelle
- Ann Moser

Voted unanimously to accept Dec. minutes with revision.

Lundey Lewis, 384 Greenville Road visited to complain about problems at the Bronson view on Greenville Rd. According to Mr. Lewis, "hoodlums" from Greenville & MA. party with loud music, leave trash, race their cars and have no respect for neighbors. He's called Mason PD. to disperse the crowds but they always come back. Ed Fortin frequently cleans up the trash they leave. Possible Solutions: temporarily block access to discourage driving in while the grass grows back (could use pine logs from the hill harvest), ask for increased police patrols, put up a sign making parking illegal after dark. Barbara D. will ask Barry Hutchins for his opinion on patrols and sign. We may need to seek Selectmen's approval to adopt a town ordinance making conservation land day-use only without special permission.

Got an update from Bob L. about the wetlands complaint on the Robinson Valley Rd. property. Bob wanted to verify map details before filing the complaint with DES. We agreed the maps prepared by Bob seem correct and accurate.

Discussed logging off Greenville Rd. for view maintenance. Liz proposed marking certain special trees to be preserved (the area sports some nice old maples and oaks). Bob D. also suggested we stipulate buffers (50') on each side of existing trails so they're preserved. Bob L. will discuss these conditions with Bill Downs. Decided to vote on this proposal. Passed unanimously.

Swore in Rob Doyle as a full member.

Update on Flo. Roberts public education programs: Chestnuts on Wed. Jan. 25 @ 7 PM. NRI Map Splash on Thurs. March 1. "Naturally Curious" authoress & Drug Take Back Program in conjunction with Mason PD later in the spring.

Regarding possible scenic road violation on Jackson Rd., research by Bob L. shows a drainage easement on the Stewart property but east of where the ditches were dug. No action resulted from Bob's meeting with the Selectmen on this issue. Bob suggested we gather some details (particularly with regard to whether the digging extends outside the right-of-way) and write a letter to the Selectmen explaining our concerns.

Doug Whitback brought some information about the Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund, a possible resource to help us with groundwater protection. Bob D. gave an update on research into protecting Mason's water from mass withdrawal by bottled water vendors.

Regarding the Trails Bureau grant for the Jackson RR bridge repair, historical considerations strongly suggest a wooden replacement is mandated. Next step is to get letters from Winter Wanderers and MANE with commitments of volunteer construction labor. Also noted we'll need to close Jackson Rd. for a while for some stages of repair; Barbara will contact Barry to discuss details. Liz suggested we contribute some money from the conservation fund to help with the grant match. Liz moved we contribute \$2,000 as matching money, the rest to be made up by volunteer labor. Passed unanimously.

Discussed options for printing NRI maps. Liz moved we allocate \$200 to have NRPC print a set of six maps on light-weight paper for our public presentation. After incorporating any feedback from that session, we'll decide on a printing method for the final set(s). The decision lies between NRPC and Spillers. NRPC has a nice glossy heavy paper while Spillers offers polypropylene, a very durable alternative.

Voted to pay **\$648.15 to New England Disposal Technologies** for removal of oil-filled barrels from the Potter land on Greenville Rd.

Voted to pay **Liz Fletcher \$40.00** to reimburse her for the cost of an oil burner permit for the Old Ashby Rd. property.

Received **\$1,350.00 rent from Dennis Graham** for 135 Old Ashby Rd.

Received **\$600.00 from Dave Baker** in payment for the Greenville Rd. hay lease.

Barbara reported on a conversation with Chris Guiry about invasive plant control. Chris confirmed the Forestry Committee's willingness to fund a focused BMP experiment in knotweed control in conjunction with the Conservation Commission.

Bob L. reported that the Selectmen agree with our current plans for arranging an easement with PSNH (see previous minutes). He will sign and forward the deed for signature by the selectmen.