



Mason Conservation Commission Minutes

October 10, 2018
7:00 pm to 9:10 pm

In Attendance

- Barbara DeVore
- Bob Dillberger
- Anna Faiello
- Liz Fletcher
- Bob Larochelle
- Rosanna Nadeau
- Ann Moser
- Matt Robinson-Liu

Voted unanimously to accept September minutes.

Discussed materials to be displayed in the RR Trail kiosk at Depot Rd. and the rededication ceremony scheduled for this Saturday (10/13). Bob L. and Bob D. will meet at 1 PM to transport some chairs and our pop-up tent to the site. Barbara will arrange with Wally Brown to have the Town Hall open so we can get to the chairs.

Discussed our 2019 budget. Doesn't appear to be any reason to change our budget request from last year. We spent the allotted \$1,400 for land management—see this year's minutes for a detailed accounting. Note that RR Trail expenses this year were covered by the Ann Preston/N.H. Charitable Trust donation, a one-time event.

Barbara reports Drug Takeback day is on October 27.

Discussed two recent wash-outs, RR Trail at Pratt Pond, and a culvert on the Quarry access road. Regarding Pratt Pond, we raised the question of installing a culvert. Agreed to ask Dave Morrison for his opinion on the best way to deal with this situation. Bob D. will give Dave a call to discuss. Regarding the Quarry access road, we need to replace or augment the current culvert with something of greater capacity. Liz distributed some culvert sizing guidelines published by Mass. Dept. of Fish & Game. We discussed adopting these guidelines for culverts on land we manage. Regardless, we'll need a DES wetlands permit for this work (unless our original permit is still valid; Liz will check). Bob L. will ask Amos White if he can do the culvert repairs while he's here doing other RR Trail work.

Discussed the new problem of excessive rain runoff from the recently clear-cut Rowse property on Valley Rd. We'll probably need a boardwalk now at the wet trail area on the north side of the Florence Roberts Forest. Barbara reports the BOS supports the idea of holding Rowse responsible for the cost. Ann will invite Mr. Rowse to next month's meeting to discuss the matter.

Reminder: we'll be repeating our NRI presentation to the new Planning Board on Oct. 24th at 7:45 in the Town Hall. We'll want printed copies of the report and the maps ready for this event.

Jennifer Beck is working with her lawyer on donating parcel G-3. She would like an IRS qualified appraisal, and sent a list of qualified appraisers. Marsha Beecy is on that list. The Commission has had good experiences with her, and her price is reasonable. Liz agreed to contact Marsha about appraising G-3.

Mitchell Brook Wilderness sign is ready to install. Agreed to a tentative date of Nov. 3 for the job. Bob D. will stop by before then to see if a post hole digger is sufficient, or if mechanized support is needed.

Matt reported on research into materials required to paint over graffiti on the Jackson Rd. trestle. Barbara will contact Dan Kuusisto to get an estimate for doing the job.