

TOWN OF SKOWHEGAN  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES  
August 2, 2016  
6:00 P.M.  
Council Room, Municipal Building

PRESENT:

Joe Dembeck, Chairman  
Robert McGorty, Vice Chairman  
Derek Ellis  
Corey Hinkle  
Tristen Hinkle  
Cynthia Kirk, Recording Secretary

ABSENT: Sherri Vigue, Corey Johnson

PUBLIC PRESENT:

**1) QUORUM:**

Conservation Commission meeting called to order at 6:00 PM, quorum was present.

**The Board shall organize at its first regular meeting after the annual Town Meeting, a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman. Each shall be elected by a majority vote, who shall serve until the next annual meeting.**

Motion by Joe Dembeck to nominate Derek Ellis as Chairman. Seconded by Tristen Hinkle. Motion passed 4-0.

Motion by Joe Dembeck to nominate Bob McGorty as Vice-Chairman. Seconded by Tristen Hinkle. Motion passed 4-0.

**2) MINUTES OF THE June 7, 2016 CONSERVATION MEETINGS TO BE APPROVED:**

Motion by Joe Dembeck to approve the June 7, 2016 Conservation Committee minutes as written. Seconded by Robert McGorty. Motion passed 5-0.

**3) OLD BUSINESS:**

**- SPARC Calendar Update (Derek)**

Derek said there really isn't much to update them on. They have not had any meetings this summer. They do have a meeting scheduled in August. He is pretty sure everything is ready to go so if they have something they want to put on the calendar then they can give it to Jeff Hewett.

**4) NEW BUSINESS:**

**- WQ Monitoring Update**

Joe said the sampling is going well. One of the meters sort of died but luckily they had a spare one to use. Cold Brook has been quite warm lately with the weather we have been having.

**- Yankee Woodlot Trail Update**

Joe said he has met with Kathy Hopkins from the extension office and Joe Willey from the Bureau of Parks and Land/IF&W. He said there was a crew in there last week to redo the bridge decking and railing.

Also they will be looking at the damn as well while they are in there. Joe said that he and Patty Cormier have also been in there doing some marking for the upcoming harvesting that they want to do in there. While they were doing the marking they came across quite a safety hazard with a big hole which used to be a valve house. The wooden trap door that used to be on top of it has rotted away. He is going to come up with something to temporarily fix it so nobody falls into it. Joe said other than that the trail looked good. Bob asked if they are going to try and host another walk there again this fall. Derek said they should definitely put up more signs if they do. Joe asked when they would want to do it this year. Tristen said maybe a fall foliage hike would be good. Maybe the beginning of October. Joe said either 10/9/16 or 10/16/16 would work well. They can finalize a date at the next meeting. They can have hotdogs and cider again. Cindy suggested they could get some sort of reusable sign that they could put up anytime when they host an event and change the letters as needed.

**-Lake George report**

Bob said the summer camps at the lake are in full swing. There are about 100 kids there right now from Skowhegan. Then once they are done then the kids from Canaan will start.

Derek said that the cover of the new adult education flyer for the high school is going to feature Lake George which is great. Also there will be some articles about Lake George in it.

Bob said the Lake George website is still coming along. They were holding off because the Point of Sale option they use with Square wasn't compatible with the website. Now it has become compatible so they don't have to use another financial source.

**5) UPCOMING WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES:**

8/18/16- The annual Rest Area BBQ will be from 11am-1pm. This is hosted by Somerset Woods to help fund the rest area. It will be \$5.00 per meal.

8/20/16- Somerset Woods will have its Annual award ceremony at the Canaan Farmers Hall 6pm- 8pm.

8/24/16 & 8/25/16 will be Maine Farm Days in Clinton.

Riverfest starts tonight and runs through 8/6/16.

**6) ADDITIONAL MEMBER & STAFF ITEMS:**

Tristen said she has been thinking of doing some sort of a hike at any of the trails here in town. She thought about doing a hike to raise money for a certain cause. Some way to help get more people out using the trails. She will be involving her students and if anybody has any ideas to help that would be great. Joe said she might also want to talk with Denise at the Rec. center. She might have some ideas to help her.

Motion by Bob McGorty to adjourn at 6:50 pm. Seconded by Joe Dembeck. Motion passed 5-0.  
Next meeting scheduled for September 6, 2016.

Minutes approved \_\_\_\_\_, 2016

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Chairman