**Orford Conservation Commission**

**Meeting Minutes: January 17, 2019**

Present: Board members: Ted Cooley (Chair), Craig Putnam, John Miller, Carl Schmidt, Emily Bryant(alternate), Harry Pease, Fran Plaisted , Tom Bubolz and Paul Goundrey

Meeting was called to order at 7:02

Emily and Fran were seated to serve on the board.

Harry Pease recused himself from discussion on Brackett Brook Farm

1. Megan Chapman from Upper Valley Land Trust - Brackett Brook Farm Received an LCHIP Grant but it was less than the asked for amount by $20,000. As a result, there is a $20,000 shortfall in the budget. As a result, we will need to have a public hearing to allocate additional funds to support the project. See proposed project financing. Byrne Grant was explored and not an option. Upper Valley Land Trust spend about 500 hours for each farm project. Only a portion of these hours are reimbursed. There will be public access, maintain open space, abuts conserved land. A second hearing is required.
2. Fran Plaisted moved the OCC donate an additional $10,000 from Conservation Funds to the Brackett Brook Farm Project , John Miller second Motion Carried.
3. Public Hearing on 2/21/19 at 7pm in Niles Room, Orfordville NH. Ted will notify the newspaper, Fran will post list serve, Emily will post at Post Office, both libraries and two libraries.
4. John Roe came to the meeting to discuss another project. Land Protection around Indian Pond is being explored through Upper Valley Land Trust. Preliminary exploration of conserving this land.
5. 11/15/18 Minutes John Miller moved accept minutes, Harry seconded. Motion carried.
6. 12/20/18-Minutes John motion, ted seconded . Motion carried.
7. Permit for the Wetlands work on Jacobs Brook from DES. Shovel ready Preproposal – NEF- if they agree then we write a specific proposal. Grant application went in
8. Culverts- NH municipal foundation to inquire about spending funds out of Conservation Fund to do a culvert sizing and placement of culverts. Awaiting a response. OCC has agreed to spend up to $10,000. Selectboard supports this decision. Discussed culvert issues on 25a. Does the State of NH have periodic checks of culverts under state roads in Orford?
9. No invoices.
10. Appointments – Diane will continue as alternate.
11. NRI-Everyone needs to work on their chapters asap.
12. Beaver Issues- John Miller pointed out that there are benefits to beavers and wetlands etc.

Tom moved we adjourn at 8:18. Ted Seconded.

Respectfully submitted by:

Fran Plaisted

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