

## **Orford Conservation Commission (OCC) Meeting Minutes: July 18, 2019**

Present: Board members: Ted Cooley (Chair), Craig Putnam, Tom Bubolz, Emily Bryant (Alternate) Fran Plaisted (Alternate, Secretary), Carl Schmidt, John Miller, and Jeff Macqueen (Vice Chair)

Emily Bryant was seated.

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM

1. Tom moved that the minutes from 6/20/19 be approved and John seconded. Motion carried.
2. John Miller reviewed his conversation with Seta Detzel NH DES, and a discussion of the conversation followed. John agreed to draft his thoughts in a one page summary. Ted moved that we recommend to the Selectboard that they hire a consultant to study and propose a solution for the Orfordville Bog/Stream Crossing. Craig seconded. Motion carried.
3. Jeff reviewed the July 1<sup>st</sup> water testing results for Jacobs Brook, Upper and Lower Baker Ponds, and Indian Pond. The test results for all testing locations were below 88 counts per deciliter limit, per NH DES. Animal waste was reported being dumped into Jacobs Brook. The report will be investigated.
4. Indian Pond Project: Paul Goundrey was looking at project with David Smith. They are inspecting the dam and the damaged culvert. Current status of the culvert is that it is reduced safety hazard after minor repairs last week.
5. Jacobs Brook Project: scheduled to begin on Monday, 7/23/2019, per Ron Rhodes CT River Conservancy. The project includes forming a bench between the brook and NH RT 25A, and placing rocks to stabilize the bank and to slow flow. The rock was obtained at no charge from Brackett Brook Farm. The proposed plantings will take place in October, 2019. The plantings will further stabilize the bank and bench, and will aid in slowing water flow.
6. Culverts Project: Two contracts have been received from the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission (UVLSRPC). The total not-to-exceed cost of the contracts remains the same at \$8500. Ted will be meeting with John Berryman (Orford Highway Department) who has been hired to do a culvert survey for the town. The meeting is to discuss OHD needs data needs and to ensure no duplication of efforts. The OCC project with UVLSRPC will be conducted to meet NH DES requirements. The 'RPC can provide the data that John so he can enter it into the new OHD database. John can add other information such as culvert installation dates.
7. Invoices: Jeff present an invoice for \$80 for mowing at the Richmond Property. Ted moved that we pay \$80 for mowing on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of June. Jeff seconded. Motion carried.
8. Paul Goundrey has resigned from OCC. The OCC thanked him for his service to the committee.

9. Emily and Craig volunteered to help learn how to put forth and prep Wetland Applications.
10. The Eck Easement Survey was conducted by a volunteer from the Upper Valley Land Trust, and the report was sent to the OCC.
11. Cow parsnip not Giant Hogweed has been found in Orford, at Mountain View Farm and other locations. Emily sent message to John Roe at the UVLT to confirm this finding.
12. Jeff reported pulling up garlic mustard at the Richmond Property, and that more of this plant remains at various location on the property. Jeff also reported that the work done several years ago to girdle the buckthorn was effective as the plants have not re-sprouted.
13. Sponsored by the Upper Valley Land Trust (UVLT), a meeting of approximately 20 people took place at Mountain View Farm on June 29<sup>th</sup> to assess the barn and shed and to discuss how to stabilize both farm buildings. A barn specialist from the NH Historic Agricultural Structures Advisory Committee (aka the Barn Committee) took part in the event. UVLT Vice President John Roe has developed a plan for work on the buildings, and volunteer labor and at least one offer of materials has been offered. Carl has been tasked by the UVLT to raise \$5000 to purchase building materials to stabilize the two structures.
14. Next meetings: 8/15/2019, 9/19/2019.
15. Looking for an alternate to replace Paul.
16. Orford Historical Society-first event to discuss history of farming is by Art Pease on 7/25/19 at 7pm at the Academy.

Tom moved to adjourn. John seconded. Motion carried.

Adjourn 8:11 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Fran Plaisted