

Orford Conservation Commission (OCC)
Final Meeting Minutes: November 16, 2023
Meeting held in person at the Niles Room in the Town Offices

Present in person: Commission Members: Ted Cooley (Chair), Bob Hedges (Vice Chair), Harry Pease, Alternates: John Miller, Emily Bryant, Fran Plaisted and Kevin Follensbee representing the selectboard.

Meeting called to order 7:05pm. Fran, Emily and John were seated as a members.

1. Discussed that Carl Schmidt is no longer residing in Orford, NH and is unable to serve on board and a recent resignation from Craig.
2. Minutes- Fran Plaisted agreed to resend the minutes form 9/2023
3. **Budget:** Discussed budget with and selectboard reviewed it.
4. **Invoices:** NHACC paid for 2024. Last of mowing bill for Richmond Property for 2023 was \$80 and has been paid.
- 5.. Orfordville Bog Culvert is now done.
5. Reviewed option of assisting with the DEM Permit/ Engineering Study for future covert issues in Orford including one on Indian Pond, Piermont Heights and Pettyman Rd. Discussion ensued about the pros and cons of spending the OCC funds on this.
6. We are uncertain how much money in the account. Discussed how best to use our funds and what priorities were involved.
7. Updated Hazard Mitigation Plan went to FEMA but they are backlogged.
8. RPC is asking for member towns to ask for a letter of support for grant for individual to help towns write grants and access funds. Ted did this so hopefully we will have access to this individual.
9. Invasives- what do we want to do next year? Knotweed smothering works well. Reviewed the options and what we can do. We don't have a way to dispose the knotweed. Knotweed can be cut and left in place. Try to stay on top of 25A and Tillotson Falls.
10. Recruitment and Nominating
11. Bob Hedges went to NH OCC meeting. Talked about what activities to offer the programs. Offer these programs once per month.
12. Emily, John and Bethany walked Richardson/ Schwaegler land per the yearly requirement to check it.

Motion (Bob/Harry): to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:04
Minutes taken by Fran Plaisted