

Orford Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes: April 18, 2024
Meeting held in person at the Niles Room in the Town Offices

Present in person: Commission Members: Ted Cooley (Chair), Harry Pease; Alternates: Emily Bryant, and Fran Plaisted.

Meeting called to order 7:04pm. Fran, Emily were seated for the meeting.

2. The review and approval of the March meeting minutes were tabled until the next meeting.

3. Elections of Officers: Chair: Bob Hedges, Vice Chair: Ted Cooley, Secretary: Fran Plaisted. Other positions: Finance Committee: Emily Bryant. The proposed slate was agreed. Harry moved that we accept slate; Emily seconded. Motion carried.

3. No new updates on the NH Trails. The Orford Heritage Trail project team will meet again Andy Schwaegler.

4. Richmond Property: Alan Dyke will not be able to mow this year. The OCC will seek another to mow the parking area and top trail. Harry will do a preliminary walk to evaluate the lower trail. If work is needed now, Harry will email group to plan a workday.

5. No invoices to review and pay

6. Need to recruit new members and discussed some new options.

7. Other discussion: FERC (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission) has extended the due date for comments for relicensing three hydro dams on the Connecticut River. The Commissioners discussed issues relating to the relicensing. The dam owners, Great River Hydro, seek to renew the licenses for 40 years. Issues include average water height and height variation, turbidity, testing, and water quality.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:35

Minutes taken by Fran Plaisted