

Approved 10/22/19

DRAFT : Pownal Conservation Committee Meeting Minutes
DATE : September 23, 2019

Members Present: Matt Welch, Kate Elders, Dick Hogue, Angela King-Horne

1. Minutes: taken by Rosemary Whitney from last meeting, August 26, 2019, were approved.
2. Secretarial role: discussion of who will take over the tasks of committee secretary because Sherry Detrich has resigned from the Conservation Committee. Matt suggested that we rotate minute taking based on the members who are present at meetings, and Dick Hogue volunteered to schedule meetings with town and be the contact for forester.
3. Horse logging of town lot: Dick and Matt met with Bruce Alexander and did a site walk of area to be logged. Bruce said that his horse can only pull 1200 feet; therefore, horse logging is not going to work, that piece of town land is too big for horse logging. Good news is that site walk showed that land is well marked and ready to go for logging.
4. New Plan for logging: Matt contacted Jeremy Shultz and is waiting to go through next steps with him; Jeremy is a forester, wrote up the foresting plan for Pownal; Matt will look into a local logger, Nicholas Cody in ~~Durham~~ ^{Pownal}, and perhaps other small, independent logger operations.
5. Town owned lots: Map 7, lots 43 and 45 are town owned; lot 44 sold, and there is a special meeting tomorrow night, September 25th to discuss the selling of those adjacent lots 43 and 45. Matt believes that Conservation Committee should oppose sale of any town land, even small parcels because they are often buffers/ open spaces between home lots, such as the lots 43 and 45.
6. Elmwood lot: the last harvest of that property was 23 years ago; 20 years is a good amount of time between harvests; goal is 15-20 years; Map 9, lot 43 borders on CMP line, and Matt believes that it was surveyed recently; Dick Hogue will contact John Mann to ask if the Elmwood lot was surveyed; John Mann is scheduled to survey town lot on Poland Range Road; Conservation Committee was granted an additional \$500 in stewardship funds; Dick is waiting to hear back from town clerk on how much is currently in stewardship funds.
7. Trail Monsters: Recreation Committee approved race course through town land; race is October 13th, begins at 6:00 am and ends at approximately 5:00 - 5:30 pm; it is a 50 K and a 50 mile race; Trail Monsters will unflag the course upon finishing; this race used to start at Pownal Elementary School but the land behind school was sold and is now owned by a man who will not allow access to the public.
8. Rescheduling of Conservation Committee Meetings: approved to move meeting day from 4th Monday of the month to 4th Tuesday of the month so that it does not conflict with Selectmen Meeting which takes place on Monday nights.
9. Logging Harvest Proceeds: Matt will find out from Jeremy how much money previous harvests from logging were, and then inquire where the money goes.
10. Last inspection/survey of town forestry land: Matt said that was in April 2018, then Conservation Committee put up signs at Sweetser, Goddard, and Elmwood; Cemetery

Road Commissioner

lot was not done. Dick will ask DPW Clark about putting cable up across access to Poland Range lot to stop trash from being dumped there.

11. Next Harvest: Matt said it should go more smoothly because we have more experience now after doing Sweetser and Poland Range; Tom Cushman helped out a lot with last harvest; Matt thinks that committee should look into the east side of town, Map 2, lot 28 and lots 37 and 41 where town owns substantial acreage.