

Deering Conservation Commission
762 Deering Center Road
Deering, NH 03244
Minutes for April 10, 2023

Attendance: Gary Samuels, Mike Thomas, Stacie Hernandez, Tim Finn, Kay Hartnett, Matt Latkiewicz, Bob Welsh, Roy Watson (BOS)

Others Present: Glenn Clark.

Call to order: Meeting called to order, 6 pm.

Minutes: Minutes of March 10 approved

Correspondence:

Received NHDES File # 2023-00509. Complete Seasonal Dock Notification for Lakes and Ponds for 278 Reservoir Road, Tax Map 235 Lot 31/29

Old Business:

Membership

The DCC welcomed new members Bob Welsh and Roy Watson. Bob Welsh was approved by BOS at it's Thursday, April 4 meeting. Roy Watson is the new BOS representative.

Natural Resource Inventory Update

Discussion of the in-process Natural Resources Inventory. Members of DCC will review the draft and forward comments to Gary Samuels. The working group will discuss the draft and comments at its upcoming meeting.

Election Day Display

Discussion of DCC's election day display featuring maps and other materials from the in-process Natural Resources Inventory. Bob Welsh offered suggestions to improve public engagement with future displays. The NRI is in a draft form and will be completed in the coming months. Discussion of presenting an overview of the NRI to the BOS and at an upcoming public forum. The forum will include a presentation by Central NH Regional Planning Commission staff.

New Business:

Review of by-laws

Members of DCC reviewed current DCC bylaws in preparation for tonight's meeting. The bylaws are posted under the DCC's tab on the town website. **Motion** by Gary Samuels with 2nd by Mike Thomas to accept bylaws as written. **Yes, unanimous.**

Gregg Hill Update

Mike Thomas presented a draft of Gregg Hill signage. Discussion followed. The site will be designated the Gregg Hill Nature Preserve. The kiosk will need to be stained/painted before installing signage. Roy Watson suggested including a QR code that would allow visitors with cell phones to access the Conservation Commission tab on the town website. Visitors would then be able to access more information on the history and ecology of the site. This content still needs to be developed. Stacie Hernandez will follow up with town administration. Discussion of the map that will appear on the sign. Discussion of cutting some trees on the lot to improve the view. The DCC will need to contact the Piscataquog Land Conservancy, which holds the conservation easement on the property, and the Deering BOS to review and approve the plans. Discussion of adding benches to the site. It was decided to add two benches at different locations/views. More discussion of benches at a future meeting. Discussion of adding bee houses to the site. Bee houses will need to be cleaned or replaced on an annual basis. It was decided to install bee houses at the nature preserve. Mike Thomas thanked Kay Hartnett for all of her hard work in helping design the kiosk sign, researching vendors and then working with All Signs Company in Hillsboro who will produce the sign.

Town-wide roadside cleanup

The annual town-wide roadside cleanup will be held on Saturday, May 6 at 8am. Glenn Clark noted that the Deering Lake Improvement Association (DLIA) will be conducting one of their annual cleanups on the same day, starting at 9 am. Gary Samuels will coordinate advertising and will communicate plans to the BOS and other community members. Discussion of logistics. Gary Samuels will have trash bags and other materials at the town hall and will be at the town hall parking lot to coordinate volunteers. Members of the DCC will clean a section of Rt. 149 and other roads in town. Bob W—Dickey Hill Rd. to Bowen School Rd., Mike and Sue T.—Bowen School Rd. to The View, Stacie H. & Tim F—The View to Hillsboro town line, Matt L.—parts of North Road.

Lake Host Update

Lake Host coordinator Stacie Hernandez gave an update on the upcoming summer Lake Host program. The annual grant application to NH Lakes has been submitted and awaiting word on funding. Discussion of staffing.

Other business:

The DCC has received an invitation from The Deering Lake Improvement Association for members to present an overview of Conservation Commission activities as well as a review of hiking trails in Deering at their upcoming Memorial Day weekend meeting. Gary Samuels will follow up.

Election of DCC officers to be held at the May meeting.

Meeting adjourn:

Meeting adjourned at 6:58.

The next meeting will be held at 6pm on Monday, May 8, 2023 at the Deering Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted: Tim Finn

APPROVED