

# ***Poland Conservation Commission***

Town of Poland  
1231 Maine St.  
Poland, Maine 04274

Meeting Minutes, January 13, 2021

**Members Present:** Barry Morgan(co-chairperson), Fred Huntress(co-Chairperson), Donald Stover(Secretary), Alan Audet, Fred Morton, John Young, Steve Robinson (Selectboard liason), Matt Garside (Town Manager), Scott Segal (Director of Parks and Recreation), Ray Stillman (guest).

**Meeting** called to order at 7pm by Chairman Morgan. Meeting was held via Zoom and telephone.

**Minutes** of November meeting were reviewed and approved as presented. The December meeting was canceled due to the pandemic.

**Treasurer's report:** Chairman Morgan stated that there is \$9082.91 in the operating funds.

**Trails Comm.:** Scott Segal led discussion of moving the Trails Committee from the Recreation Department to the Conservation Commission. This was approved in concept and Scott and Alan (currently President of Trails) will work out the details. The trails budget will become a line in the Conservation account. Trails will be a subcommittee of Conservation with Alan serving as the Chairperson. Current Trails workers will be included in discussion and organization of the change and will be able to attend Conservation meetings as Conservation Associates. We want to be sure the trails members are recognized for their major contribution and continue to have a voice in how trails are managed. The respective web sites and by-laws will be amended accordingly.

**Worthley Pond:** Following a cordial meeting with the owner of the camp, Barry reports that access will continue for canoes, kayaks and ice fishing. Fish and Game continues to stock the pond.

**Waterhouse Park:** "No Hunting" and "Safety Zone" signs have been installed. The Commission thanks John Young for supplying and installing the signs.

**Black Cat Mountain:** The trail has been cleared from N. Raymond Rd. to Mountain Rd. in Raymond. This trail is on prior town roadway, but access to the pinnacle is over private land.

**HOP and BHCA:** The new walkways have been installed and provide an excellent addition to our trails. There was discussion of installing a kiosk at the Hilt Hollow entrance to HOP. Scott believes his department can build a kiosk similar to the others.

Scott is planning to remove some trees behind the library to develop a small playground area and some overflow parking. Fred has been consulted about which trees should be preserved. There will also be consideration of an amphitheater and/or gazebo in this area.

Scott will be seeking donations for this project.

**Conservation Budget:** was denied in its entirety by the Budget Comm. However, it was a good opportunity for Barry to present a clear picture of our on-going work. The sale of the Sadie Jackson property will be on the warrant and those proceeds will go into the Conservation operating budget (as voted at a previous Town Meeting). Additionally, Conservation Commission will have ability to allocate those funds as they see fit (e.g. place a large portion in the Conservation Reserve Fund to be used for acquisitions, easements, and grant matching funds.)

**Other business:** Scott announced that he has obtained snow shoes and skates for rental to citizens. He will also be developing a ski rental inventory.

Scott also announced that he is developing a document to detail on-going trail maintenance projects.

**Meeting adjourned** at 7:50. The next meeting will be Wednesday, February 10, 2021, probably via Zoom once again.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donald Stover, Secretary