

Poland Conservation Commission

Town of Poland
1231 Maine St.
Poland, Maine 04274

Meeting Minutes, March 10, 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)

Meeting called to order at 6:56m by Chairman Morgan. Meeting was held via Zoom and telephone.

Minutes of January meeting were reviewed and approved as presented.

Treasurer's report: Chairman Morgan stated that there is \$8,507.28 in the operating fund balance. A Tree Growth Penalty of \$5277.73 was added to the Reserve Fund.

Trails Committee: Barry suggests we wait a year or at least until post-covid before re-writing by-laws to include Trails as a sub-committee of Conservation. Barry asked Don to serve with Alan as a Conservation member concerning integration of Trails Comm.

Scott will report on the updated Trails Master Plan each month.

CEDC is interested in the Trail maps. They want to distribute them at more locations and are willing to help. Don suggested creation of a master map briefly describing each conservation area and its location. Detailed trail maps would continue to be distributed at kiosks. For the present only the individual trail maps will be distributed. Alan suggested maps with "You are here" designations be posted at each kiosk.

Waterhouse Park: The rubber duck release activity will be conducted at the dam. Scott will ensure no ducks escape to the wild.

Scott has plans for a periodically changing story book trail in the area behind the school. The project will be designed to encourage more people to use the area. There will be further discussion of this at the April meeting.

John announced that in the future the Snowmobile Club will do some grooming to accommodate Nordic skiing.

There has been no recent communication from the ATV Club.

Heart of Poland: Survey has been completed and paid. An attorney is preparing documentation to add Lot 6 to the easement.

Scott is developing a project to place artificial birds on the Red Trail as part of a contest designed to attract more visitors to the park.

Conservation Assistants: Alan is successfully recruiting assistants to develop and work on a variety of specific projects in our conservation areas. He will soon present a master list of these projects which include things such as fisher den boxes, flying squirrel boxes, camera placements, and vernal pool assessment.

Other business: Barry urged everyone to be active in supporting Article 29 (sale of Sadie Jackson Lot) on the Town Meeting ballot.

Barry announced that he has been getting a large number of positive comments from citizens concerning the work of Conservation Commission. The trails are especially appreciated.

John Young revisited discussion the small area off Old Plains Rd. which is used for a small boat launch. This would be an excellent property for Conservation to own. He will do some further research on its availability and possibility of owner transferring it to us.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07. The next meeting will be Wednesday, April, 14, 2021, at 7pm. The present plan is for an in-person meeting at Ricker Library with strict adherence to Covid 19 precautions (masks and social distancing mandatory).

Respectfully submitted,
Donald Stover, Secretary