

# ***Poland Conservation Commission***

Town of Poland  
1231 Maine St.  
Poland, Maine 04274

Meeting Minutes, July 10, 2019

**Members Present:** Barry Morgan(co-chairperson), Fred Huntress(co-Chairperson), Donald Stover(Secretary), Mike Murphy, James Walker, Steve Robinson(Selectboard Liason), Peter Bond (associate).

**Minutes** of June meeting were reviewed and approved.

**Selection of Officers:** Nominations and unanimous votes resulted in the following list of officers for the 2019-2020 year:

Co-Chairpersons: Fred Huntress and Barry Morgan  
Secretary: Don Stover  
Treasurer: James Walker

Three sub-committees were appointed by the co-chairs as follows:

Budget: Barry Morgan, Mike Murphy and Don Stover  
Waterhouse Park Plan Comm.: Fred Huntress, Mike Murphy and Don Stover  
Timber Sales: Fred Huntress, Barry Morgan and Mike Murphy

**Waterhouse Park:** Concerns were raised about the future care and maintenance of this resource. Questions were raised about current usages and conflicts, preservation and future development of habitat. Several members noted that ATVs have caused extensive damage to the railroad bed. Question arose as to advisability of obtaining a conservation easement as we have done with the other conservation areas. As a consequence the Waterhouse Park Planning Committee was asked to develop a comprehensive plan for the future of Waterhouse Park.

In August the Public Works Department will do necessary tree trimming and install canoe landing steps. The bridge is on schedule for September installation.

**Jackson Lot:** Fred discussed the article from town meeting that would designate any sale profits to Conservation Reserve Fund. Exact wording and meaning of that article will be reviewed. The Town Attorney has concluded that the town holds a right of way to the property, but owner of an abutting property evidently continues to object. Fred recommends that the property be prepared for a sale as a prime house lot. This will require clearing of some trees (to open the view and provide space for a pull-off from the road). A small amount of road work will be needed to level and gravel the parking spot. Fred spoke strongly in favor of proceeding with the sale.

**Community and Economic Development Comm.** There was discussion of seeking closer liason with CEDC because of numerous overlapping interests.

**Trails and Bridges:** At the next meeting, the Selectboard will consider an RFP for bog bridges. The bridges are needed for trail maintenance and improvement. Trail Comm. and Conservation will speak for this project.

**Bragdon Hill Conservation Area:** Mike will meet with Adam Strout to plan improvement of drainage at parking area on North Raymond Rd.

**Other business:** Jim Walker reported that he has been in discussions with the ATV Club. They offer to repair past damage and wish to cooperate to maintain access to the railroad bed in Waterhouse Park. Jim has also been in contact with a company that could construct a water power station at Waterhouse Dam. Members were invited to meet with a representative at the dam on Friday, July 12 at 10am.

**Meeting adjourned** at 8pm. The next meeting will be Wednesday, August 14 at 7pm in Ricker Library Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donald Stover, Secretary