



Town of Albany, NH
Conservation Commission Monthly Meeting
January 7th, 2025

Call to Order: 6:31pm

Present: Cathy Ryan – Chair, Mike Steward, Jacob MacKenzie, Sean Wadsworth

Excused: Cort Hansen

Public: Jake Davis - “Davis Natural Produce”, Paul Richardson “Grandview Farm”

Mike Steward made a motion to approve the December 3rd, 2024 minutes. Sean Wadsworth seconded. The motion carried 4-0-0.

Cathy Ryan thanked Mr. Davis, and Mr. Richardson for joining the CC this evening to have an annual review/discussion of farming at the Albany Town Forest.

- Road status/issues - All agree that the road is in need of repair and upgrade
 - Area between paved oval and metal gate
 - Area between model airplane field and farmers wellhead
 - Bringing in crushed stone and grading required
 - Jake Davis stated that Russ Lanoie would volunteer to regrade the section from the paved oval to the gate
 - Mr. Davis and Mr. Richardson stated that they could do the grading of any crushed stone brought in from the model airplane field to the wellhead
 - Both Mr. Davis and Mr. Richardson asked about the possibility of getting a higher quality/upgraded lock on the gate. There was general agreement that the locks are owned by the Forest Service and any changes would need their approval
 - The gate used to have a “Do Not Park” sign attached, which is currently missing. Mike Steward stated that he would contact USFS and work on getting a new sign installed
- Jake Davis stated that two of his volunteers are also Forest Service employees that may be able to help with coordination between the Town of Albany and the Forest Service
- Mike Steward stated that he could contact Brian Johnson at USFS for coordination as well



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- Maintenance of Tree lines, Hedgerows, Ditches, Swales - General discussion about what areas need attention
 - The tree line between main field and front/Rt 16 side field may need maintenance
 - Deer and other animals that feed on the farmers crops take cover here
 - Tree line is blocking views of the open space
 - Tree line generally follows low/drainage areas that are often wet with steep embankments
 - Question/consideration of annual fall mowing of the grassy triangle area to the south of the model airplane field.
 - It has not been mowed in many years as it's outside of the farmers acreage.
 - Some invasive, thorny thistles, and woody growth have taken root
 - Consider adding to the annual fall mowing/maintenance area
- CC members and Farmers/Contractor read through the existing Contract and Amendments
 - Contracts going forward will have a 5-year term
 - Section 10 Sanitation – Jake Davis stated that he has paid for and supplied a seasonal Porta Potty, to serve the farmers and the school groups from KMS
 - Section 19 Insurance – Farmers/Contractors will provide copy of current insurance
 - Town of Albany shall be named as additional insured
 - USVLT shall be named as additional insured
- Jake Davis stated that he has been working with Corey Dowe at KMS to create a course for the middle schoolers to work and learn about farming
 - Sustainable Agricultural Practices
 - Field to Plate processes
 - Economics
 - Hands on planting, tending, harvesting
- CC asked the Farmers/Contractors if they would be able to measure and report on the field size
- CC stated that we would be working with USVLT to update the Agricultural Management Plan
- CC stated that we are working with USFS to create an MOU for the road/right of way passage
- CC thanked Mr. Davis and Mr. Richardson for being excellent partners with the Town of Albany



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Mike Steward made a motion to adjourn. Sean Wadsworth seconded. The motion carried 4-0-0 at 7:56pm

Next meeting to be held on February 4th 2025 at 6:30pm

Respectfully submitted,

Sean Wadsworth – Acting Secretary