

MEETING MINUTES

ALBANY CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Tuesday, April 1st, 2025. 6:30 pm

Members present: Cathy Ryan, Cort Hansen, Mike Steward, Sean Wadsworth, Absent and excused: Jacob MacKenzie.

Cathy called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm. With no scheduled appointments she went directly to new business and asked for questions or comments on the 3/4/25 meeting minutes. With no comments or questions, she asked for a motion to accept the meeting minutes for the 3/4/25 meeting. Sean made the motion to accept the minutes and Cathy seconded the motion. The vote taken to approve the minutes was 3-0-1 and the minutes were approved. Mike abstained due to his not being present at that meeting.

Under new business Cathy brought up the topic of the annual spring trail cleanup. Mike indicated that he will be unavailable after the 17th of April. After some discussion the trail cleanup date was scheduled for 4/26 at 9:00am. The scope of trail work along with possible boundary marking was discussed. Speculation is that there may be an above average amount of blowdown on the trails due to the high winds this past winter. Mike said that he could do some reconnaissance work to see if that is the case. Cathy suggested that perhaps the day could be combined with boundary work. If there isn't too much debris to clear, then the work day could also be used for clearing and re-blazing work on the boundary. The boundary section in question is from the USFS property to the NH F&G boundary at Rt. 112.

Under old business, Mike met with USFS Assistant Ranger Brian Johnson regarding the field entrance road and gate on the USFS Saco District property. The roadway has many low spots and puddles and needs gravel and grading to repair it. The gate has lost its "Do Not Block Gate" sign that has created some problems for the farmers. Brian indicated that the gravel and grading can be done and that he thought he could locate a replacement sign for the gate. According to the January CC minutes, Jake Davis said that Russ Lanoie has volunteered to grade the road if gravel was provided. Cort said he would contact Russ to coordinate the work.

Cort said he has contacted Saco District Ranger Jim Innis in regards to creating a M.O.U. for the entrance road by the ranger station. He is waiting for a follow up call from Jim.

Cathy suggested once the commission has finalized work on the Agricultural Management Plan (AMP) and the Conservation Management Plan (CMP) that the commission print copies of them along with the Forest Management Plan in order to have all 3 plans available for new members to review as part of an orientation of CC responsibilities. Sean said he would forward copies of the draft AMP and CMP to members.

Cathy said that she had recently attended a MWV Solid Waste Management meeting and she is now an alternate member representing Albany on the board.

Mike brought up the proposed trail extension work that has been laid out around the ski jump property. USVLT needs to approve the layout before any work is started. Sean said that he would coordinate with USVLT for that review.

With no further business and with no other public comment and at Cathy's request, Mike made a motion to adjourn and with a second from Sean the motion was approved 4-0 and the meeting adjourned at 6:52 pm.

The next meeting date will be 5/6/25.

Cort Hansen, Conservation Commission Secretary.