

MEETING MINUTES

ALBANY CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Tuesday, August 8th, 2025. 6:30 pm

Members present: Cathy Ryan, Cort Hansen, Sean Wadsworth, Mike Steward, & Jacob MacKenzie.

Cathy called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm. With no scheduled appointments, she went directly to new business and asked for questions or comments on the 6/3/25 meeting minutes. Cathy noted that Sean had indicated one edit to those minutes which Cort confirmed had been corrected. With no other comments or questions, she asked for a motion to accept the meeting minutes for the 6/3/25 meeting. Sean made the motion to accept the minutes and Jacob seconded the motion. The vote taken to approve the minutes was 5-0 and the minutes were approved.

Regarding the road to the field, Cathy said that this project work had initially been discussed with the farmers going back 2 years. Russ Lanoie had volunteered to grade the road if gravel was provided. Four truck loads of gravel were delivered on 7/11 and the work was completed by Russ. Cathy said she would send a thank you to Russ for his assistance. A discussion to wait until the next meeting to approve the withdrawal of funds from the town's Conservation Fund was held. It was agreed to wait until the September meeting to approve the withdrawal, pending a review of the invoice which did not match the delivery slips from the 7/11 material deliveries.

Cathy brought up the topic of making an appointment to the Conway Branch Recreational Trail Advisory Committee. Cort said that unless anyone else was interested, he would volunteer.

Mike brought the members up to speed on recent trail planning by NEMBA on around the ski jump. Rob Adair has volunteered to assist with a small excavator that specializes in trail work. Mike indicated that it would be a huge benefit to save on volunteer hand labor. Mike also noted that the Thomas family has entered into an agreement with NEMBA to develop a trail across their private property that would connect the Bald Hill town forest parcel to the town forest parcel along the Kancamagus Highway connecting the two separate parcels with a trail for walkers and riders.

There has been no word from the USFS regarding an MOU on the access road to the town forest field area.

Sean discussed the Conservation Management Plan and said that the USVLT has made some edits. Sean suggested waiting for the next CC meeting to review those edits. He also discussed the reasoning for the move to the larger hall room for public meetings. Cort noted that the large monitor screen for use with Power Point presentations was quite valuable for meeting purposes, and he hoped that screen could be moved to the hall meeting room.

With no further business and with no other public comment and at Cathy's request, Sean made a motion to adjourn and with a second from Mike the motion was approved 5-0 and the meeting adjourned at 6:58 pm.

The next meeting date will be held on Tuesday, 9/2/25.

Cort Hansen, Conservation Commission Secretary.