

Hebron Conservation Commission
Feb. 21, 2024
Approved March 28, 2024
Minutes

In attendance: Paul Connor, Barbara Kohout, and Martha Twombly, Chair. Debbie James is still recovering from knee surgery.

Guest: Jack Giller, Hobart Hill Road

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm.

Martha introduced Jack Giller as a part-time Hebron resident and trail master working with Kim Sharp and others on restoring the Elwell Trail in Hebron and Alexandria. Part of the trail crosses the LRCT's Bear Mountain Conservation Area, which has not yet been prepared for public use. Jack is also a Hebron Town Forest volunteer.

Minutes

The minutes of December 2023 and January 2024 were reviewed. Martha said the only addition is to the end of the Jan. minutes: to complete paragraph indicating the HCC vote to support the Bocce Court project in the amount of \$200.00. PC moved/BK seconded, unanimous.

Permits

Two Intents to Cut, both with contractor Ben Hall.

1. John Black, Hunt Road, acreage of cut: 30 acres.
2. Hillside Inn, Rte 3A, acreage of cut: 45 acres.

NHDES File Number 2024-00371

Elizabeth H Robertson, Trustee

20 Onaway Point Road Tax Map #6, Lot #OP-3-A

Notification of Shoreland Permit Application Received. Martha will contact Alan Barnard to see what the permit is for.

2024-2025 HCC Budget

The draft budget was reviewed, and will be presented to the Selectboard Thursday, Feb. 22 at 6:50 pm. The draft budget funds the HCC at the same level as this year at \$5,000.00.

HCC for Hebron Town Report

The report is due to Karen by March 25, so Martha asked everyone for their input asap.

Hebron Town Forest

We still have approximately \$2,100.00 in our current budget to be spent by June 30, 2024.

Upcoming projects for this money are:

1. Remove hazard trees along the Cockermouth Ledge and Spec Pond Trails.
2. Spec Pond Trail - beaver dam trail stabilization.
3. Trail reinforcement along Cockermouth River, and at kiosk with Greg DeSanto, professional trail master.

There was discussion about **removing the huge pine tree** that washed downriver from near the town forest boundary and is wedged on the HTF bridge. It is a hazard that, if rotated at some point by flood waters could block the river at the bridge and undermine the bridge abutments. Martha will contact NH DES to see if a permit is needed, and she will discuss with the Selectboard at tomorrow's budget review meeting.

ForeCo Forest Mgt Plan update

Martha will schedule a meeting with Tom Hahn of Foreco **to review a map of trails in the town forest**, and determine which ones will be shown on the Updated Forest Management Plan. Foreco wants to be sure that any future logging access roads do not impact trails negatively. The HCC is also concerned about avoiding the Significant Habitat Areas from the Natural Resource Inventory. We can also talk with Tom about stabilizing and improving the Spec Pond Trail at the beaver dam, as that is the only present access into the town forest.

Cockermouth Bridge. There was a short discussion of anticipating future climate impacts to the bridge, its abutments and the continuously eroding access road. There need to be infrastructure improvements to manage this.

Martha also introduced a conversation about **stormwater management** on Hebron's gravel roads, and is concerned that the contractors are ditching drainage directly into brooks. She will bring this up the Selectboard tomorrow as well. She presented information about the use of vegetated swales as a more environmentally friendly approach to the dispersal of storm water off the road, but to an area where stormwater can be infiltrated rather than channelled into the brooks.

The meeting was adjourned at 8 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Twombly