Franconia CC meeting

April 23, 2015

Kim, Chris, Mary, Eric, Ginny, Red, Kathy, Angelo, Rebecca Brown

New member, Angelo Costa

Before the meeting Kim, Red, and Kathy had walked property on rte 141 to check out a request for a permit for the creation of a pond. No discussion at the meeting.

Kim noted the dues amount of $242.00 should be paid to the NH Association of Conservation Commissions.

Rebecca Brown, ACT member, can to the meeting to assist the committee on options regarding our consideration of purchasing the Lawrence property.

The Lawrence property consists of 114 acres and the current asking price, $350-390,000.

The property flits in with the Clean water healthy trout project. Responsibility of communities to protect watersheds using easements.

Rebecca will continue to try to contact Mr.Lawence to discuss options, is his family on the same page, would he consider various payment/ donation options? Advantages, write off, tax break possibilities.

The property has high value from the stream perspective which may open up funding sources:

 Mitigation and enhancement funds

 ARM. Grants

 LCHIP grant

If sources are found the town should not have to pay "too much"

The first step should be having the town( as a buyer) contract for an appraisal of the property.

An appraised value is needed for negotiation point. What would the development vs conservation values be? Specialized appraiser for this property, Rebecca has a source.

Discussion on the town of Franconia and ACT co operation in purchase and then decisions o. Ownership and holder of the easement....pros and cons of each option will require discussion at a later time.

Rebecca presented a sample budget on future aspects and costs once the property is acquired.

Kim will check on the feasibility of using FCC funds for paying for the appraisal.

She will also check on the possibility of using these funds to assist in the Jericho Cooley forest development needs.