Franconia Conservation Commission (FCC)

Meeting: Feb 17, 2020, 4 pm

Members present: Mary Grote, Ginny Jeffryes, Chris Nicodemus, Mark Ober, Jill Brewer

Old minutes: Ginny moves to accept 1/21/2020 minutes. Mary seconds. Unanimously approved.

Conservation Fund: Details about the fund contents aren’t available today because meeting today taking place after Town Administrator left for the day. NH Association of Conservation Commissions (NHACC) says that Franconia’s fund of 50% of local current use money was adopted in 1995. Mary’s recollection is that at one point in past it was 100%, and for a while it was 0. She is going to research her old Town Reports to find the warrant article history.

Jill emailed Holly to ask her to research the fund. Chris had a recent conversation with NHACC about what can be done with the conservation fund, and it is more varied than what we were aware of: for example, doing natural resource inventories, maps of town properties, wetland evaluations, purchase of land or purchase of conservation easements, conservation training and education for CC members and interested citizens, guest speakers, publications about conservation.

Local conservation projects:

1. Van Pelt’s 10 acres for sale on Wells Road for trail preservation. No new information from Art or ACT about any movement on their consideration of acquiring it. Discussion that we would be willing to contribute some small portion of conservation funds, but information is so unclear that it’s premature to discuss in detail today.
2. McKenzie Woods existing conservation easement - Red, Chris, and Ginny walked a portion of the easement on 1/29/20 at 8:15 a.m. No concerns were identified. There is an area of a small trail along which we will post additional conservation placards next time we walk it.

Wetlands application:

Reviewed the response by owner to DES’s concern. Red isn’t here to report on it.

Next meeting: Tuesday March 17th. 4 pm.

Minutes by Ginny Jeffryes