CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING

DATE: September 11, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brett St. Clair, Drew Groves, Darlene Jarvis, Ron Jarvis, Stan Sowle, Margaret Watkins
MEMBERS ABSENT: George Holt

MINUTES: August’s minutes were accepted

OLD BUSINESS:

Land auction

Brett St. Clair informed members that the auction of the Baalouky property has been rescheduled for October 11, 2019 at 3 PM.

Kimball Pond Conservation Area

Jeff Crosby has replaced the logs used to restrict access to the clear cut off Kimball Pond Road and has removed the logs from the spillway at the dam on Kimball Pond. Brett noted that there is some brush near the dam that should be cut and added that he may get a chance to remove it himself.

NEW BUSINESS:

Guinea Road upgrade

Brett St. Clair updated the Commission in regards to the Crooker family’s possible upgrade of a portion of Guinea Road in order to build a home on their property (Parcel ID E4-02-05). The Crooker’s lot is on a Class VI section of Guinea Road. The road is one of several designated scenic roads in Dunbarton and protected under NH statute RSA 231:158. The Conservation Commission is required to hold a public hearing prior to any work being done on a scenic road which would involve cutting or damaging trees, removing stone walls, etc. The Commission must also provide written consent before work can be undertaken.

Representatives from the Selectmen’s Board, Planning Board, Fire Department, Building Department, and the road agent walked the road on August 27 to assess the existing road and provide recommendations to the Selectmen. The Board of Selectmen will ultimately make the decision regarding the road standards for the possible upgrade. The Planning Board has met and voted to recommend that the Crookers upgrade the road to a travel width of 20 feet with 2 foot shoulders.
The Commission will hold the required public hearing on October 9th to gather input on upgrading a section of Guinea Road. Brett volunteered to ask Line Comeau, Town Administrator, to notice the public hearing as required and notify abutters. Brett suggested that Commission members meet to walk the road in the coming week, the date and time to be announced. The Selectmen will make a decision following October’s public hearing.

Annual monitoring of Kimball Pond Conservation Area (KPCA)

On September 5th Brett St. Clair met with Amanda Hollenbeck, Stewardship Specialist with the Conservation Land Stewardship Program, to monitor the KPCA. Brett made Amanda aware of the changes made to the snowmobile trails and the Commission’s efforts to have the required amendment recorded.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

September 16, 2019 – “The Conservation Commission : Roles and Responsibilities”, training for Conservation Commission members presented by NHMA’s Legal Services Counsel, Stephen Buckley, 7:00 PM at the Bow Town offices.

October 9, 2019 – Public hearing in the Town offices to gather input on the upgrading of approximately 700 feet of Guinea Road, a designated scenic road.

NEXT MEETING: October 9, 2019, 7:30PM

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: Darlene M. Jarvis