

MINUTES

Epsom, NH Conservation Committee

June 15, 2017

Attendees	Guests
Alison Parodi, Chair Cal Preston, Member Denyce Gagne, Member Elsie Fife, Member	Kate Champney

Old Business:

- Alison attended a Selectboard meeting to request expenditure of ECC funds for the purpose of supporting the transaction fees of several easements currently being pursued by Bear Paw. The Selectboard questioned the need for such a significant expenditure of the ECC funds and said they would take more time to consider. Alison notified Bear Paw and asked if they would be willing to help Epsom acquire an easement on property next to the Town Forest, in return. If the Selectboard denies the request, Denyce suggested the ECC prioritize the projects and possibly make a partial donation.
- Denyce passed around a package of NRI maps provided by NHFG. NHFG provides digital and paper copies of 11x17 and large format NRI maps for towns free of charge. Denyce will ask if they offer lamination and also if they can add steep slopes and ridgelines to one of the maps. If other ECC members see corrections or would like to suggest edits, please contact Denyce.
- Beaver are still posing a problem on Tarleton Rd, in the Town Forest. Alison met a trapper that would be interested in helping out this winter when pelts are in season. She will also look into volunteers to help unplug the culvert under the road.

New Business:

- Town Forest:
 - In continued attempts to limit damage to Tarleton Rd, and because locking the gate regularly results in vandalism, a new sign has been posted on the mailbox suggesting that those that rut the road should volunteer to repair it.

- Trash has not been a problem recently, Cal continues to monitor the campsites to clean up as necessary.
- Glen Horner of the Zoning Board contacted the ECC regarding town-wide trail construction as a shoot-off of the Economic Development Plan and Revitalization Zones. He will be setting up a meeting with the Central Regional Planning Commission, Don Hardy--Selectboard, and Denyce. Alison suggested the Fort Mtn Trail Winders should also be involved. The ECC wants to be sure any trails will be properly posted and/or barricaded and that there is buy-in from the local PD to ensure that illegal OHRV use does not become a bigger problem in town.
- Welcome Kate! Kate Champney is interested in becoming a new member of the ECC and will be submitting her letter of interest to the Selectboard.

Next meeting: August 17, 2017. No July Meeting.