

**Milford Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes Feb 20, 2014
7:00 Banquet Hall**

The meeting was held on Feb 20, rather than 13th because of a heavy snow storm

Present: Members: Audrey Fraizer, Chair; Hub Seward, VChair; Andy Hughes, Becky Lorette, Kim Rimalover, Andy Seale. Janet Urquhart, excused. Alternate Members: Chris Costantino. Guests: Greg Boggis. Members of the Public

Approval of January meeting minutes – By a motion from BeckyL, seconded by AndyH; the Commission unanimously approved the January 2014 Meeting Minutes.

Appointment:

7:15 – The appointment scheduled by Kate Basso of Keech Nordstrom presenting a Minimum Expedited Wetlands application for wetland and buffer impacts on Lot 43-57 was deferred until further notice.

Item	Discussion	Who Will Do What
1. 4 th Saturday hike	<p>January Hike at SRT West – there were 15 people in attendance.. AndyH and JanetU took photos.</p> <p>February Hike at SRT East – KimR will lead. ChrisC was given permission by the Masons to use their parking lot.</p> <p>March Hike is at Monson – AudreyF will lead</p>	<p>ChrisC will contact Russ Dickerman and the SPNHF to notify them of our intent to hike.</p>
2. Warrant Articles	<p>Rotch – needs to be on the 2015 warrant</p> <p>Land Fund - \$20,000 – AudreyF thanked everyone for making the effort to get the petition signed. She also thanked Tim Finan, who at the Deliberative Session asked that this petition warrant remain on the ballot in respect to the petitioners who requested the article.</p> <p>Mile Slip Easement - \$0</p> <p>Audrey had conversation with NHACC and NHLMA about Bill Drescher’s (town attorney) opinion that our process to obtain an easement on Mile Slip was incorrect. According to both Nik Coates and Christine Fillmore, there is a split among the legal world about the correct process to put an easement on a town forest. Audrey will do more investigation into towns which have put easements on their town forests.</p>	<p>AndyH will update his 2013 Letter to the Editor and submit for the 2014 Cabinet article in support of our Land Fund WA.</p> <p>AudreyF will write a letter in support of the Mile Slip Easement</p> <p>AudreyF will continue to research other towns which have put easements on their properties</p> <p>ChrisC will start a list of</p>

		questions to ask towns who have protected their land through easements.
3. Tucker Brook TF Timber harvest	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Temporary Right of Way Agreement – what was the previous agreement with the abutter for access? ChrisC will check back minutes for that information. We will need justification for the cost of the access. 2. Timber Sale Prospectus – Commission members should send their comments to the Commission office for tabulation. AudreyF and ChrisC will use the comments to make any changes and bring back to the Commission 	ChrisC will look for information in back minutes. AudreyF and ChrisC will work on this agreement and bring back to the Commission
4. Website Update	An ongoing process. JanetU submitted her blurb for the 4 th Saturday hikes. AudreyF and ChrisC still need to complete their sections.	ChrisC will continue to update AudreyF will do her section about the Commission. ChrisC will do her section about Town Forests
5. Brox Community Lands Plan Update	AudreyF updated the Commission about the decisions of the Brox Committee. She asked that the members send in their comments on the Draft Plan to Bill Parker. AndyH was glad that the trail along the Heron Beaver Pond was reserved. AudreyF would like to have the open space designated initially so that development occurs around it. She would like to see an easement put on the open space or have it described on the deed of the property.	Members to send comments to Bill Parker. Now is our chance to weigh in.
6. Natural Resource Inventory	<p>The commission discussed having citizens be trained to do inventory of the natural resources in town. AndyH was concerned about the competence of citizen scientists and how reliable their data would be. The commission will continue to think about this – we need to continue our inventory process. There were some ideas of outreach discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Who needs zoos – go out and find our own animals in our “wilderness” - Public outreach in the town hall with speakers to build awareness. Perhaps have easels of town maps for people to identify resources that they know about. <p>Suzanne Fournier presented a flyer for a presentation called Wildlife Species and their Habitats in Milford which will be held at the library on March 19 at 6:30pm</p>	<p>ChrisC will look through back minutes for information about a proposal to do an NRI for the town.</p> <p>AndyH will talk to YvonneBeran, biologist, about resources to assist us in our efforts to collect data.</p>
7. Property surveys of Pratt, Sherburne, Rotch	Jon Nute, County Cooperative Extension Forester, has done surveys of our town forests in the past. ChrisC asked if the Commission would like to have him do a survey of Pratt, Sherburne and the newest addition to the Rotch Town Forest. The Commission was in agreement for her to do this	ChrisC will contact Jon Nute to do the surveys when the weather and ground conditions are favorable.
8. Training Events	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Saving Special Places – April 5 - \$60/person 2. Water Words that Work – March 11 & 12 - \$60 for both days \$35 for each day – AudreyF and ChrisC will go to the March 12 session. 3. Mr Mapper – NWRA on Feb 26 at 6:30 - free KimR and ChrisC will attend 	Please let ChrisC know if you want to attend Saving Special Places by March 20 to get the

		discount. ChrisC will handle the registrations for the WWTW.
9. EDAC representative for 2014	ChrisC has been the MCC representative to the Economic Development Advisory Council for the last couple of years. She was checking to see if anyone else wanted to be the representative. AndyH and AudreyF expressed interest	ChrisC will contact them when the next meeting is called.

10. Creative Investments – Melendy Rd Open Space Easement Map/Lot 47-5	<p>The commission discussed the Open Space Conservation Easement which was prepared for this subdivision.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BeckyL was concerned that restricting snowmobiles would bind the owners of the open space. -AudreyF suggested that ChrisC show the wording of the Pratt Easement to Kent C for potential phrasing in this easement 	
11. Interdepartmental reviews	<p>>St. Joseph’s Medical Center plan – Where is the wetland in the land swap – it isn’t clearly marked on the sheet we were given. Chris will find out.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Share Keep current gravel surfaces gravel. Incorporate more pervious pavement ➤ Cumberland Farms 44-11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Level II Groundwater Protection Zone -Rain gardens in the landscaped areas -Shrubbery along the southern perimeter to keep trash and debris out of the wetland -Catch basins allow water with little treatment direct access to the wetland -Pre-seeded composted wattles to replace hay bales ➤ Great Bridge – Capron Road <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The commission wants to see the flagged wetland crossings -Will the trail be open to the public -Would like to see the open space designated on the map and considered as a whole project, not subject to alteration in response to each phase of the project. -What are the shaded areas on Sheets 2,3,4 other than the buffer designation -Discrepancy of the wetland impact and buffer impact numbers between various documents -Is all the data current? There are differing dates on sheets of the plan ➤ Classic Bay Farm 54-13-2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -preseeded composted wattles instead of hay bales -BMPs for the manure/waste handling. -Manure will be stored and then shipped off site. It will be stored in the facility, which could include pastures and rings in addition 	

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	to the barn structure. If it is stored outside, there should be BMPs reviewed by NRCS
12. Land – Non-Public	The Commission didn't discuss this. ChrisC just briefly updated the members in the vaguest of ways that there was very slow progress being made.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15pm