

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING

DATE: January 13, 2016

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

Alternates Present: Matt Lavey, Margaret Watkins

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mel Gendron

Alternates Absent: None

MINUTES: December's minutes were accepted

### Public hearing to discuss expending \$30,000 from the Conservation fund to assist in the purchase of an easement on the Stone Farm

Approximately ten townspeople attended the public hearing. Margaret Watkins fielded a number of questions as lead person on the project and a Five Rivers Conservation Trust board member. She described how the easement held by Five Rivers will protect the land from future development. She explained where funding that has been secured has come from and how much money still needs to be raised before the end of the year in order to purchase the easement. No one in attendance voiced an objection to the Commission's plan to contribute \$30,000 to the project.

Brett St. Clair made a motion to commit \$30,000 to the Stone Farm project. The motion was unanimously approved.

### NEW BUSINESS:

#### Certificates awarded

Brett St. Clair presented both Fred and Lee Mullen with certificates acknowledging their exploration of each of "Dunbarton's "13 Wonders" in celebration of the town's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

#### Bela Brook Conservation Area (BBCA)

##### *Abandoned trailer*

Margaret Watkins asked if an old abandoned camping trailer which sits off Meadow Road in the Bela Brook Conservation Area could be removed. The trailer is approximately 8x24 feet and is located in a mud hole. Stan Sowle pointed out how difficult it will likely be to remove it due to where it sets and its condition. Brett suggested that further discussion regarding removal of the trailer be on the agenda for later this spring.

*Boundary lines*

Brett St. Clair stated that the BBCA boundaries need to be clearly marked before the Commission has to deal with an infraction. Drew Groves volunteered to explore the bounds to determine which are able to be located and blazed by Commission members.

Fish and Games proposed bobcat season

After a discussion of Fish and Game's proposal, members agreed that Brett St. Clair should draft a letter in opposition to the proposed season. The letter should question the rational of reducing the numbers of a species whose population has barely rebounded and doing so based on the limited survey information the Department has referenced.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

February 1, 2016 - Public hearing on proposed bobcat season, Representative's Hall at the State House, Concord, NH, 6 PM

NEXT MEETING: February 10, 2016, 7:30 PM

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: Darlene M. Jarvis