KUNCANOWET TOWN FOREST AND CONSERVATION AREA MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: January 7, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ron Jarvis, Margaret Watkins, Darlene Jarvis, Fred Mullen, Brett St. Clair, Ed White

MEMBERS ABSENT: Rebecca Hebert, Les Hammond, Peggy Senter

MINUTES: September’s minutes were accepted

OLD BUSINESS:

“Fogg’s field”

Ron Jarvis contacted Ralph Fellbaum and learned that he mowed the field this fall but got busy and didn’t brush out along the stone walls. Ralph does not wish to bill the Committee until he has completed the job.

Members present discussed the need for rejuvenating the field itself. Forrest and Vera Fogg gifted the land to the Town with the understanding that it be mowed to provide nesting habitat for certain birds. Ron, having spoken with former vocational director, Webb Palmer, suggested three possible methods of discouraging the woody growth and weeds from taking over the field. The most economical solution would result in an additional mowing in the early spring. Ron offered to call the UNH County Extension Service to talk to wildlife expert Matt Tarr. Margaret Watkins volunteered to contact a person from NH Fish and Game Department. Margaret also suggested that there might be funding available for habitat improvement.

Kuncanowet trust fund

Margaret Watkins has the materials she needs to draft a cy pres’ request to be presented to the Merrimack County Probate Court so that the Committee has access to the fund not just the interest. The fund generates a miniscule amount of interest in the account where it is held currently.

Kuncanowet Town Forest and Conservation Area (KTFCA) trail maintenance

Darlene Jarvis mentioned that five members completed the following tasks on Sunday October 13, 2013. The Mill Pond trail and the Pond Loop trail were cleared of tree falls. Stones and rip rap were replaced around the large culvert in Mill Pond trail. All of Gum Tree trail, including the trail to the Gum Tree, was trimmed and cleared of tree falls and damaged blazing was replaced and more added.

Ron queried the Committee regarding the possibility of moving a section of trail south of Lost Lake if a feasible location can be found. Darlene suggested that the current trail up a steep ledgy area is hard to negotiate and Fred Mullen concurred. Margaret Watkins voiced some concern that a trail across the wet area along the drainage below the “lake” might intercept a corridor possibly used by bobcat.
NEW BUSINESS:

Town’s 250th centennial celebration

Fred Mulllen discussed the upcoming celebration in 2015. He explained that the centennial committee would like every organization in Town to participate in the celebrations in one or more ways. Members present envisioned organizing a Kuncanowet hike and discussed possibly working with another committee(s) such as the Conservation Commission to construct a parade float.

2013 LCIP monitoring survey

Darlene Jarvis reported that the required monitoring forms were completed and emailed to Steve Walker in December.

Annual report

Ron Jarvis stated that he will draft the report so that members can review it before sending it to Line Comeau, Town administrator. Line would like the report by January 16th.

NEXT MEETING: March 25, 2014, 7:30 PM

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: Darlene M. Jarvis