

KUNCANOWET TOWN FOREST AND CONSERVATION AREA MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: July 25, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ron Jarvis, Darlene Jarvis, Fred Mullen, Ed White

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brett St. Clair, Peggy Senter, Margaret Watkins

OLD BUSINESS:

Membership

In 2015 the 3 year terms of Ron Jarvis, Brett St. Clair, and Rebecca Hebert expire. The chairs of the Conservation Commission and Town Forest Committee will fill the open positions. Rebecca Hebert is expected to be replaced while Ron is willing to remain on the Committee.

NEW BUSINESS:

"Fogg's field"

Annual Maintenance

Even though the field continues to be mowed each fall, various weeds, poison ivy, and sumac appear to be overtaking the field. In hopes of learning how to better keep the field in grasses, Ron Jarvis and Margaret Watkins met with Matt Tarr from the UNH County Extension Office to walk the field. Matt suggested the Committee try cutting the field twice a year with the first mowing done early in the spring.

Donna Dunn contacted the Committee to ask if members might consider purchasing a brush hog to use in maintaining the field. Members present discussed the idea but were in favor of continuing to hire the work done by someone who owns and maintains their own machine.

Possible sign

Ron Jarvis reported on a brief meeting with Donna Dunn in Fogg's field. Donna asked whether a sign could be posted near the road to discourage people from removing artifacts, picking flowers, and disturbing nesting sites. Though a number of verbiage possibilities were discussed, Fred Mullen felt that the proposed sign would "draw more attention" to the field and might result in more people feeling entitled to use it in inappropriate ways. Members present agreed.

Conservation Commission's "Hike of the Month"

In April Ron and Darlene Jarvis lead over 20 people on a hike to the Stinson mill site and pond. In preparation for the hike Ron and Darlene brushed out and removed a number of tree falls from the Hobblebush trail, Mill Pond trail, and Pond View Loop.

Trail maintenance/boundaries

Fred Mullen reminded the Committee that there are two large trees across the Mill Pond trail between the bridge and Lost Lake and that the short spur trail from Gorham Pond to Gum Tree trail needs to be brushed out. Ron Jarvis expressed his hope that a few hours of work in the Kuncanowet can be scheduled for a Saturday morning in September.

NEXT MEETING: October 27, 2015, 7:30 PM

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: Darlene M. Jarvis