

Meeting: Antrim Conservation Commission, March 31, 2021 at 6:30 pm Zoom meeting.

Attendees: Peter Beblowski '22', Jeremy DeLisle '23', Linda Bryer '21', Keith Wolsiefer '22' and Rod Zwirner-Member-at-Large, Public: none

Absent: Ron Cheetham '23', Frank Gorga '21'

1. Draft February 2021 meeting notes were reviewed, amended and accepted.
2. Jeremy and Ron have been called by the town clerk for their renewals YR 2020 to 2023. Ron has been renewed and Jeremy has his appointment.
3. Next up for renewal are Linda and Frank. Peter to send a request to the selectmen and Diane, reinstallation should be scheduled in April.
4. **Trails:**
 - a. **Campbell Pond** – Jeremy reports he and Amy have been walking out to the Pond on a bi-weekly basis and that things look good. One large tree down across the trail on the west side. We will assess when snow gone but may leave down to create a barrier to ATVs. Also, Frank is to contact Student Conservation Association (SCA) regarding potential trail building around pond & possible loop trail up Reily Mtn. for summer of 2021. In the Fall, we marked a # of Japanese Barberry bushes for removal. **Date to do set for April 11 at 1pm.**
 - b. **Meadow Marsh Trail** – Peter hiked Meadow Marsh Trail. A little trail maintenance is needed. A new board is needed for one of the bog bridges and trail brush cleanup is needed. **Date to do set for April 18 at 1pm.**
 - c. **Lily Pond Trail** – Trail map has been finalized and uploaded on www.trailfinder.info we can set a date for a hike to the ledges if you would like: **Date: mid month ---tbd (when things dry out a bit more).**
 - d. **Hurlin Property** has some substantial trees that need cutting and brush needs mowing. Schedule in winter 2020-2021. Linda contacted Caleb Platt about brush hogging and he said he would be glad to do it. We need to schedule some tree trimming as well on the RoW. Jeremy said he and Griffin would go over and do the cleanup during the week sometime as Griffin needs some community service time. The February Hurlin hike to review site and initiate plans went very well. Preliminary plans were discussed and Jeremy to lead planning. First action is to take some soil samples for pH and fertility analyses.
 - e. **Meetinghouse Hill Trail** to the Meetinghouse Hill Cemetery needs to be re-established. Peter has contacted Andrew Robblee (before the pandemic) re: new trail easement agreement. Peter will revisit after pandemic is resolved.
 - f. **Buttercup Lane Project underway with lead taken by Parks and Rec Department.** Peter is to meet with Isaac Lombard (Parks & Rec Chair) to work out a plan of action.
 - g. Also, need to develop an integrated trail management plan for town and Master Plan. This is to be re-visited after the pandemic is resolved.
 - h. Peter has cut templates for the picture post. Peter & Tod will work together on producing several post tops for installation this year. <https://naturegroupie.org/citizen-science/picture-post> and <https://picturepost.ou.edu/index.jsp>
 - i. Peter has contacted a potential deed abstracter to document the deeds for conservation commission/town owned properties managed by the Conservation Commission.
5. **On Wednesday, April 7 at 12 noon** Peter & Linda will attend a webinar presentation by Emma Erler, Field Specialist with UNH Cooperative Extension on dealing with invasive plants. This webinar will discuss what makes plants invasive, species that are already an issue, and common landscape plants that have the potential to become invasive in the not too distant future. Following the webinar commission members will review several town properties and next meeting we will discuss plans on tackling some of the invasive plants on town properties and work on recommendations for assisting the Town Road crew/road agent on others. Several locations are known to be getting out of hand and action is needed to be taken. **Date for review anticipated to be in May/June but tbd**
6. Peter contacted Maryann Culinane at Great Brook School and collaborations for trails & town history will be re-initiated between the commission and the school sometime in April-May.

7. **Contookook & North Branch Rivers Local Advisory Committee (CNBRLAC):** Rod says check out the new website <https://www.cnbrlac.org/> . A new member is needed. Nothing new to report but meetings are better attended due to zoom.
8. Linda, Rod and Frank (via email) all urged that a letter be sent to the selectmen regarding the early establishment of water levels at Gregg Lake so the loons have the best chance for successful reproduction/nesting this summer.
9. Linda also mentioned that tonight is the first time the spring peepers were out singing.
10. **Paddles & Hikes:** Hikes to be coordinated with trail work above....
11. **Planning Board/ ZBA:** Landsite Gravel operation renewal permit on Rte 31 #2021-01-PB due April 12 and hearing April 15 who wants to respond?
12. **Intents to Cut**- active
20-017-016T Schacht, Map 242, Lot 16, West Street, (45 of 75 acres cut)
20-017-017T Shook, Map 232, Lot 5-01, Smith Road, (14 of 15.7 acres cut)
20-017-018T La Sala, Map 213, Lots 44,45,46, & 74 and Map214, Lot 19, Rte 31 & Elm Ave, (120 of 121 acres cut).
13. **Workshops & meetings**
Harris Center <https://harriscenter.org/events>
Monadnock Conservancy: <http://www.monadnockconservancy.org>
Society for the Protection of NH Forests: <https://forestsociety.org/>
Nature Conservancy: <https://www.nature.org/en-us/about-us/where-we-work/united-states/new-hampshire/contact-us/>

Next Meeting: April 28, 2021 and time tbd via zoom.