

SULLIVAN CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Sullivan Town Hall
Jan. 9, 2019

Present: Wendy Pelletier, Roger Sweet, Eric White and Becky Cummings.

The minutes of the December meeting were accepted as read.

Wendy shared a letter from the Selectmen concerning the final version of HB 1347 pertaining to the content of meeting minutes. The legislative change “will now require that minutes of public meetings include the names of the public body members who made or seconded each motion considered at a public meeting”. Effective date Jan. 1, 2019.

Eversource has notified the town they will be clearing high tension lines once again.

Funds of the Conservation Commission were discussed. There are 4 accounts: the operating budget (budget voted on annually at town meeting), the Conservation Account (Land Use Change Tax for education, mapping, upkeep, etc. as provided by RSA 79-A:25 - \$45,000+-) and a Capitol Reserve Account (for land protection - \$13,735.23). There is also the small Stanley Dvoracheck Capitol Reserve Account (\$497.18) for maintenance in Jewett Park. Funds from the LUCT Account may be used with vote of the local commission as long as the use follows state guidelines. The monies in the Capitol Reserve Account for land protection need the votes of both the commission and the selectmen.

It is hoped that one day the land owned by Richard Smith (off Boulder Rd. and bordering on Chapman Pond on the east, north & south) and the Antis land (adjacent to the Town Farm) may one day be protected.

Roger passed around the Annual Report of the Ashuelot River Advisory Board. There are some new wetland rules to be aware of. It was also mentioned that each year the commission budgets for water testing as Sullivan has a tiny section of the river that passes through a northern corner. Barbara Skuly from Swanzey is very knowledgeable and helpful, if anyone has questions.

Wendy asked what conservation members would like to see as goals of the Sullivan Commission in 2019. Eric would like to see the completion of the loop trail in the center of town. Becky would like to see a kiosk for maps and information put into Jewett Park, which would be the beginning and/or the end of the loop trail. Discussion followed on the hazard trees in Jewett Park. Those would need to come down first. The loop trails are in fairly good shape. Signage is needed to mark the trails (especially one to Meetinghouse Rock). Discussion – what kinds of signs – wood, aluminum, etc. Wendy will speak with Barbara Richter of LUCT for her input on use of funds and perhaps some guidance on signs, etc. Wendy will also speak to a few loggers about the hazard trees in the Park. Mark Smith, Chris Lane & Geoff Jones were mentioned. Wendy would like to see the loop trail and area developed into a family friendly area with informative “kids maps” available on the kiosk too. A brief discussion followed about all the different kinds of maps that could someday be made available.

Dates for town clean-up and a hike should be set at the February meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Becky Cummings, Clerk