

Conservation Commission Meeting September 19, 2019

Minutes taken by Ruth Gutman

Present at the meeting were members:

John Bozak, Don Leuchs, Dan Blanchette, Ruth Gutman

Guests:

Ryan Mackenzie, Eagle Scout candidate

Jen Mackenzie, Ryan's mom

The meeting of the Conservation Commission was called to order by John at the Martha Sawyer Community Library at 6:30 p.m.

Community Forest Management Plan

On August 29, John and Don met with the Lebanon Select Board to discuss the Lebanon Community Forest management plan. Don provided copies to the board members of maps and the description, along with one full copy for their review. There was some concern about hunting safety on the property, but the conservation commission feels that posting hunting season info on the kiosk, combined with common sense, will be adequate.

Eagle Scout Community Forest Trail

Eagle Scout candidate Ryan updated us on his visit to the community forest. He discovered that the wetlands prevent access to the pond, but marked out a pleasant loop trail for us to review. Getting drone footage of the forest was an idea for identifying any possible access to the pond. Ryan mentioned a "storybook walk" as one idea he had for engaging families with children. It was suggested that he visit Mary Grant in Acton for another example of a storybook walk, and visit Salmon Falls Preserve in Lebanon for a nice example of blazing. A walk with Ryan is planned for Sunday, October 13 at 9 AM.

Community Forest Publicity and Public Walk

John suggested we hold a public event at the forest and set that as a deadline for getting signs posted and brochures and maps finished. Sunday, October 20 is the proposed date.

Winter Speaker

Cheri Brunault, the new executive director of Three Rivers Land Trust, will be speak about her experiences on the Appalachian Trail. We have proposed February 20, 2020, our regular meeting date, as a good date to schedule the talk. Ruth will talk to Cheri and report back.

The next meeting is October 17, 2019.

Respectfully submitted, Ruth Gutman