

Freedom Conservation Commission
August 20, 2013

Members Present: Jim McElroy, RA Oram, Sue Hoople, John Roman, Bill Elliott, Mike Gaudette, Alice Custard, Greg Bossart

Members Absent: Rob Hatch

Others Present: Susan Marks

Minutes recorded by Dianne Park

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm

Minutes

There was a motion by Mike, seconded by Alice, to approve the minutes from July 16, 2013 with changes. All were in favor.

Page 1, under ~~Members Present~~ change ~~RA Oram~~ to ~~RA Oram~~

Page 3, fourth paragraph, second sentence, change ~~funding in increased~~ to ~~funding is increased~~

Financial Update

BH Keith

Date: 08/02/13

Inv. #: 01-3041

Activity Period: June 1, 2013 to July 31, 2013

Re: Timber Sale Layout and Forest Administration

BH Keith, Principal, 5.0 hrs. @ \$50/hr.	\$250.00
R. Gerard, Chief Forester, 1.5 hrs. @ \$40/hr.	\$ 60.00
TOTAL	\$310.00

There was a motion by Jim, seconded by Bill, to approve Invoice #01-3041 from BH Keith for \$310.00. All were in favor.

There was a motion by Oram, seconded by Jim, to move the FAC Report to the end of the agenda. All were in favor.

FAISC

Jim passed out a monthly update and reviewed all material.

2013 Budget to receive 2 Grants

1-for Herbicide Treatment for \$5010.00

1- for DASH work for \$5420.00

Town Meeting Approval of \$6500.00

Previous invoice# 1159, from AB Aquatics Inc., will be reduced to \$5220.00 from \$8700.00 because of 40% grant funds.

NHDES recommends a complete herbicide treatment and additional DASH work for the fall of 2013. Jim described the revised spending estimate and how the spending would be possible. He

recommends the Herbicide Treatment but if the board is looking to save money hold off on the DASH work. Alice asked why the need for additional money. Jim said the company doing the work this year is new and more careful which means slower. John asked how the stream in Upper Danforth Bay was and Jim said it looked better but they're still finding plants.

There was a motion by Mike, seconded by Bill, to move forward with additional funding for the fall 2013 Herbicide Treatment and Additional DASH work. All were in favor.

Lake Host Program

This program is finding out that the same boats are going in and out of the Freedom Marina. Next year the program will try managing the Fishing Tournaments. Jim attended the Milfoil Control Funding Coalition Meeting in Concord, NH on July 8, 2013. Their goal is to increase funding and have hired a lobbying firm to this end. The board discussed being involved with a lobbying firm and the concerns for funding. Mike said he is opposed to lobbying and would rather work with the local state representative. Bill agreed with Mike and had concerns with spending money on lobbyists. There was a motion by Mike, seconded by Alice, to accept Jim's FAISC Report. All were in favor.

Old Home Week Guided Tour

This year's Guided Tour was attended by about 20 people and the Mary's Mountain Hike was attended by about 4 people. The board had discussion on whether to cancel the Mary's Mountain Hike for next year and only have the Guided Tour. There was a motion by Mike, seconded by Alice, to accept Jim's Old Home Week Report. All were in favor.

Approval of Rules of Procedure

The outstanding question was on what constitutes a 2/3 majority. Oram contacted the NH Municipal Association which stated that majority rules and is one more member than half. In this case where the board has 7 members 4 would constitute a majority. There was a motion by Mike, seconded by Alice, to change the wording in Article X Voting to "A quorum is one more than half" and delete "2/3 of the membership constitutes a quorum". All were in favor.

Review Intent to Cut Applications

Bill questioned the FCC getting these applications after the cut has been started and in most cases the cut is complete before the FCC gets these applications. Mike asked if the process could be changed from applications going to the Board of Selectmen (BOS) then the FCC to FCC then BOS. Greg informed the board that this procedure is a state wide procedure not a Freedom procedure. After reviewing all applications there was a motion by Jim, seconded by Mike, to have a silt fence installed along the stream for application 13-165-10-T for Map 16, Lot #1. All were in favor.

FAC Report

Rob Hatch sent this month's FAC Report in an email because of his absence from the meeting. The FAC wishes to increase their 2013 budget by adding 2 additional projects.

1-increase the 2013 timber cut

2-to get ready for a future control burn logging of the 20 acre parcel would cover the cost of the burn.

The board had a discussion on these 2 projects. A motion was made by Mike, seconded by Sue, to support the FAC update to secure additional funding, for BH Keith, of \$1,500.00 to increase the 2013 timber cut and secure additional funding of \$1,000.00 for BH Keith to layout the timber cut of the 20 acre parcel for a future control burn. All were in favor.

The board discussed the lack of having an FAC Member attend the FCC meetings. Oram read Article X Attendance of the Rules of Procedure: which state "If a person misses three (3) consecutive meetings or four (4) meetings within twelve (12) months with no contact, this shall be evidence for noninterest. The FCC may then vote to recommend to the Board of Selectmen that the member be removed from the FCC." All board members were asked to think about this issue for future agenda item. After discussion there was a motion by Mike, seconded by Jim, to send a letter to the chairman of the Forest Advisory Committee stating the "Absolute need for FAC representation at future FCC meetings" and cc the BOS. All were in favor.

Miscellaneous Correspondence

A memo from the Society for the Protection of NH Forests was circulated to all members. This memo informed the board of a control burn at the Harmon Preserve. Oram has informed the town Fire Chief of this fact. This memo was received in a timely manner before the burn in late summer or fall of 2013.

Business Properly Presented to the Board

Susan Marks commented on the Lobbying Issue and stated the Alliance is paying the firm to do research (find out which lakes have milfoil and which do not) not paying for lobbying rights. Other lake host groups have been contacted to see if they would like to join the coalition in trying to secure more funding for milfoil work. She suggested Bob Reynolds come to a future FCC Meeting. There was a motion by Bill, seconded by Mike, to have Bob Reynolds attend a future FCC Meeting. All were in favor.

There was a motion by Mike, seconded by Jim, to adjourn the meeting.
Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm.