

JOHNSON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 10, 2022

Present: Lois Frey, Sue Lovering, Noel Dodge, Peter Hammond, Jared Jasinski

Absent: Jackie Stanton, Carrie Watson, Dean Locke

TRAIL BUILDING

Recently presented to the selectboard by Lisa Crews, Kyle Senesac, and Brian Story was a trail building project that would create more trails for mountain biking and hikers on the Talc property. The group informed the board that they would be asking whether Act 250 would be required for their project; the selectboard gave their permission. Walter Pomroy is also involved.

RECREATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

There has been no talk of the above endeavor before it was brought up at the selectboard meeting and it illustrates perfectly why the CC should have a Recreation Management Plan. We should be able to be in on the ground level in such a situation. Lois pointed out the need for a list of parameters for groups to look at and consider when planning some kind of development, such as this one. It would be a good way to educate the public. We should compile such a list, present it to the selectboard as soon as possible, and present a case for mandatory inclusion of the JCC before any development on public land takes place. We should all go to this meeting and perhaps include a third party like Arrowwood Environmental to also attend.

After much fine-tuning, we finally perfected and approved this statement:

We request that the Selectboard make it their policy that formal comment from the Conservation Commission be a required component of any development idea or proposal on town property.

Thanks to Noel for mercifully coming up with the final version; we might still be at it if he hadn't.

Jared said it best: "This is best for Johnson's lands and those around it. This is what we do." In-deed.

MISC:

- Upon Jared's report of a heavy gasoline spill on Rt 15 on February 10 that went from the Mobil station to Maple Hill, Noel pointed out that any toxic damage should be reported to the DEC, the state's environmental enforcement division.
- A motion was made to never let Noel drop off the CC. Everybody except Noel concurred.

Adjourned at 8:45

Next meeting is on March 10 at the municipal building at 6:30.

Submitted by Sue Lovering, secretary.