

Town of Bartlett
Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 13, 2021
Meeting via Zoom

Attendees: Chairman Chris Fithian, Mike Morin, Jesse Jameson, Keith Wehmeyer

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm

Chairman Fithian opened the meeting stating the need to review and approve final budget. States he will try to write something but wants to include Mike Morin since he is a strong writer. Keith Wehmeyer suggests writing more about what we plan to do this year and less on the past. Fithian states the importance of doing both says we should do both and will start a google document that we can all add to.

Mike Morin moves discussion to the Selectman's meeting attended in December. States he attended meeting in December with a few goals: better understand our budget/line items for the Conservation Commission and to broach subject around town support of USVLT's acquisition of Dundee Community Forest. Selectman said there is a nominal amount of money in an escrow account for Conservation Commission but were not sure what it was from and said they would investigate it.

Morin and Fithian had a chance meeting and spoke about the idea of expanding our role as the Conservation Commission and would like to establish a conservation fund for the town. Towns typically allocate land use change taxes to go into this fund. He was provided some language for a future warrant article in the hopes to establish a conservation fund. In Bartlett you a minimum of 25 signatures are needed for the article but 30 are recommended. Wehmeyer suggests we add this to our annual report and that making a connection with the Selectman would be help. Morin suggests taking time and raising interest in the community first.

Fithian states Saco Headwaters Alliance has expressed interest in presenting at one of our meetings and advocating for their work. Presentation is about 45 minutes.

Wehmeyer states that he read in Planning Board minutes that there is someone in the public championing for a change to noise ordinance. Wants to know if it is appropriate for the Conservation Commission to support this. Fithian is not sure if it is in our purview but would be interested in reading statutes. Wehmeyer will forward meeting minutes to the group about this.

There being no further business meeting was adjourned at 7:44 pm.