

## **Conservation Commission Meeting 1/11/2022**

*In attendance: Chris Fithian, Steve Frackleton, Colleen Ryan, Jesse Jameson*

- *Called to order at 6:06 pm/ Called to close 7:11 pm*

### **Town-Owned Property Mapping Update**

- Colleen and Mike met following our December meeting to work on creating a map of town-owned land parcels
- This map does not include tax lien parcels as there was uncertainty about what the town does with these and Colleen suggested researching what the review process for these properties is for the state
- Plan is for us to do on-site walk throughs and surveys of these properties looking for wetlands, hazardous materials, etc.

### **Conservation Fund Update**

- Chris has made several inquiries to the Selectboard to follow up on our request to learn if the "Conservation Commission Account" is in fact a true Conservation Fund. As of the date of this meeting he has had no response
- Deadline to submit a petitioned warrant article is approaching, which we will need to do depending on what the answer to our request is. This petition would require a minimum of 25 signatures from registered voters in Bartlett. If the account in question is not a Conservation Fund, then we need to create a warrant article to establish a fund as well as one to create a funding mechanism.
- Within certain parameters a Conservation Fund would allow us to use money in the fund for Conservation Commission purposes without needing permission from the Selectman. Examples cited were distributing educational materials or covering supplies needed for a volunteer river cleanup day. This is different than money appropriated by the town for the Conservation Commission's annual budget, which does require prior approval for use. Research is needed to determine if any unused portion from the annual budget could be rolled into the Conservation Fund and if that requires a town vote.

### **Annual Report**

- Chris began a preliminary draft of our Annual Report which is due soon. He requested help in revising and expanding this and all agreed to review and make contributions as necessary