

STRAFFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes 27 October 2015

Present at the Justin Morrill Education Building at 7:00 p.m., were commission members John Hemenway, Kate Root, Mike Hebb, Amy Metz, Jared Jenisch, and Steve Willbanks (Chair).

Meeting Minutes:

- Approved 9/22/'15 Minutes
- Trails, Whitcomb Hill: Mike –
 - a. Working on Cross-Strafford footbridge.
- Wetlands Update: Jared/Kate
 - a. One wetland site visit since last meeting. The Wetland Committee is winding down as we enter into Fall and Winter.
 - b. Kate passed around some sample wetland reports that are created as a result of the field visits conducted by the Committee.
- Budget '16
 - a. Last year's budget was \$0.00. We will keep the same amount for 2016.
 - b. Steve will inform Lisa.
- Road re-naming
 - a. Landowners of Sawyer Mountain Rd would like to rename their road to "Hemenway Rd," in honor of the exceptional stewardship of John Hemenway, which has define the landscape of the road. John stated that he was honored by this show of gratitude and was quite humble when he spoke, claiming that the area's good soils are the reason why the forestry project has been so successful throughout the years.
 - b. The Strafford Historical Society has found little to no historical value tied to the existing name of Sawyer Mountain Rd.
 - c. SCC approves the road renaming and will draft a letter in support.
- Updates:
 - a. Old City Rec. Area: seasonal report – Mike Hebb fixed the broken toilet.
 - b. Maple Hill Road Culvert – Finished! Thanks again to the CT River Watershed Council.
 - c. Podunk: Timber cut, pond – Pond is losing water. The beaver have gone and no longer maintain the dam.
 - d. Invasives –Nothing to report
 - e. Hazard Mitigation Committee – Nothing to report.
 - f. Propagating lady slippers - Crossroads Middle School research project. The students are hoping to reduce the germination time from 10 to 5 years. We are offering our fen in the Town Forest to replant the lady slippers back into the wild.
- Next Meeting: November 24, '15

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Metz, Recording Secretary