

## **SHAPLEIGH CONSERVATION COMMISSION: 9-November 2020**

**Attending:** Anna "Chuck" Desmond, Susan Baker, Carol Boothby, Susan Marcoux

Meeting called to order at 7:10 by Committee Chair Chuck Desmond.

**Wildlife Sightings:** Chuck saw a bear on Back Road. Also of note, a fox sighting and barn owls.

**Secretary's Report:** Secretary's report for 19-October, 2020 was approved as written.

**Correspondence:** The Saco River Corridor Commission sent a notice that they need 2 members. This commission oversees the land use development within 500-1,000 feet of the Saco, Ossipee, Little Ossipee Rivers, the Little Ossipee Flowage, and Balch Lake. The commission is made up of reps from 20 communities bordering these water bodies. Each of the 20 municipalities has an opportunity to be represented by 1 regular and 1 alternate member appointed by the selectmen and selectwomen. The commission meets on an "as needed" basis. Susan accepted the appointment.

Governor Mills sent 2 letters. The first encourages Maine's congressional delegation to help towns conserve land and support economic growth through our land and water conservation fund. She also thanked the delegation for their support of the Great American Outdoors Act. The second letter urges USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue to include Maine farmers and food distributors in the critical federal aid program. As part of the Farmers to Families Food Box Program, the USDA is partnering with food distributors, but selected a Maryland contractor to support our program. The letter requests a review and to include a Maine distributor (or distributors and the Program).

**Treasurer's Report:** Committee's balance stands at \$115.00

**Trail:** David Mann and Chuck walked the trail end-to-end on 27-October, 2020 for the 3RLT annual report. The Square Pond Rd entrance is a little confusing; some signage would alleviate this. 1 other sign on the trail needs to be updated, but otherwise just minor cleanup is needed.

**Town Forest:** The Monitor Report for 3 Rivers Land Trust is complete

**3 Rivers Land Trust:** Moving forward on plans for a parking lot at Gruber Forest. The LaViolette's have granted an easement to 3LRT to accommodate parking, eliminating the need for major reconstruction on Deering Ridge Rd. The parking spaces are projected to be available in early 2021.

**Williams Property:** Susie Marcoux has recently visited and reports it looks great.

**New Business:** 3RLT plans a walk on our town nature trail on 15-November, 2020 @ noon. They would like our committee to join them. The group is meeting at the beach. 3RLT is working to get more people interested in the trails that they have granted easements on.

Susan Baker plans to lay out the coordinates and caches (boxes) for geocaching on the town trail over her Christmas vacation. Once the coordinates are identified, a kid-friendly document needs to be created.

Next meeting will be December 14, 2020

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Submitted by Susan Baker