

**Alstead Conservation Committee
Meeting Minutes for September 4, 2019**

Present: Sarah Webb, Nan Montgomery, Donna Sabin, David Moody, Joyce Curll,
and Joyce Campbell-Counts

I, Minutes from June 2019: Accepted as read.

II, Wetlands tours – open to the public. Unfortunately, only ACC members attended, probably because of these being rescheduled due to rain on originally posted dates July 22-23.

- Jeffrey Littleton led the tours, describing features and specialties of each property.
- Leslie Honey, Monday, July 29, at 6 pm – this walk took us through their multi-layered wetlands.
- David Moody, Tuesday, July 30, at 10:30 am – we went through his woods along the special wetlands pond, which varies in depth year to year.

III, Wetlands payment schedule:

- June 18, 2019 – \$3,380
- July 11, 2019 – 1,290
- August 22, 2019 – 1,940
- Wetlands Total = \$6,610
- Current estimated balance in Conservation Fund = \$38,000

IV, ACC Budget

- Deadlines in Oct-Nov.
- Town Report is due December 2019.
- NHACC membership dues are \$250 to be paid in September.

V. Warrant Article preparation for the ACC Conservation Fund

- Document what is spent from each fund: Operating Budget and Conservation Fund.
- We have done meaningful conservation and restoration work. We have established town forest trails. We make contributions specifically for Alstead children to attend the Orchard School Summer Camps.
- We need a 5 to 10 year window for helping residents to fund conservation easements. Two of these are pending: Distant Hill Gardens and Kroka Expeditions.
- The only income to the ACC Conservation Fund is a portion of the timber tax.
- Do we request annual funding for the Conservation Fund or establish a new Capital Reserve Fund to add to yearly?
- ACC members will meet September 17 and October 10 to develop the warrant article.

continued

VI. Logging – The ACC is to receive a portion of the timber tax from logging. One Change-of-Use tax occurred in 2018 and was submitted in 2019. Two cuts were started April 2019. Sarah spoke with Charlotte Comeau who said timber tax is to be paid at the end of a cut. What is the ACC's portion of this tax?

VII. Recruitment for new Conservation Commission members – Post this request on the Town website and announce it at the month-end Saturday Conversations at Shedd-Porter library.

VIII. Easement monitoring – Sarah will contact members to walk these properties this fall.

Announcement: Surry Mountain Project, join the hike from Noon to 4 pm on Saturday, October 5, 2019, with The Nature Conservancy at the Casa Grande easement.
Contact: Janine Marr, where to meet?

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.
Submitted by Joyce Campbell-Counts