

Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes Draft-October 18, 2014

Present: Nate Fogg chair, Dave Mankus vice-chair, and Steve Brown.

Also present: Donna Martin videographer

The meeting was called to order at 9:00am at the Gage Hill Conservation Area.

➤ **Board Business**

Gage Hill

N Fogg noted that this meeting was a site walk to view a piece of property adjacent to the Gage Hill Conservation Land. He handed out maps printed from Wakefield's Maps Online that showed the property know as TM 135-1. The property has been for sale for several years and may be of interest to add to the existing conservation property. The property is approximately 39 acres, is assessed at \$42,700, and is listed for sale at \$89,900.

N Fogg thanked S Brown for noticing the 9PM time on the meeting notice in time for it to be corrected to 9AM.

The group walked up the existing woods road on the conservation property and then headed through the woods to the high point of the property in question.

S Brown questioned why we were considering spending conservation funds for adding to the existing conservation land when the existing property is not currently utilized. It was decided that we would discuss the pros and cons at our next scheduled meeting and spend this time viewing the property.

There is a hunting tree stand on the property. The high point viewed by the board is high and would have a view if vegetation was removed. There is frontage on Route 16. An old woods/logging road comes in from Route 16 but the access is wet. The lengthy driveway required to reach a buildable point on the property may have discouraged potential buyers. There is plenty of trees on the property, however not many mature trees.

D Mankus thought that we should view local snow mobile maps to see how this area might fit in with local trails.

N Fogg asked the other members to review the potential parking area for the Gage Hill Conservation property, as he had missed that meeting. The 80 foot by 80 foot area was reviewed and shown to be fairly level and without large rocks to deal with. The commission may wish to block off the woods road to prevent unauthorized four wheel drive access to the property. There does not appear to have been usage recently.

➤ ***Other Business***

N Fogg noted that there was no other timely business that needed to be tended to at this site walk/meeting.

➤ ***Next Meeting***

The date for the next meeting is scheduled for October 27th at 7:00 PM.

D Mankus made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by S Brown. The vote was 3-0 in favor of the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Nate Fogg