

TEMPLE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Minutes of Public Meeting, May 13, 2013

Attendees: Lincoln Geiger, Honey Hastings, Bruce Kantner, John Kieley, Sean Radcliffe, Dave Repak Absent: Eric Foley,

Opening at 6:00 pm

Minutes of March 11 and April 8 were approved. *Sean will send out March 11th minutes.*

Monadnock Conservancy: 1) Conservation Leadership Training, May 30 and June 6, 6:00-8:30 pm. *John will take info to Select Board.* 2) 2013 Easement Landowner Survey for Chris Weston Conservation Area. *Bruce will fill out and return to TMC.*

Election of new officers: *John moved, and Honey seconded, that the existing officers be reelected: Lincoln as Chairman, Dave as Vice Chair, and Bruce as Secretary. The vote was unanimous in favor.*

Report on Town Forest visit with Jon Nute of UNH Extension: Bruce and Sean had a very informative, two-hour walk of the Town Forest on May 6th with Jonathan Nute, County Extension Forester. Bruce emailed a copy of Jon's report to members and also shared hard copies at this meeting along with a Deer Tick poster and a 1/4/80 letter of Recommendations for Management Temple Town Forest from Robert Breck, Hillsborough County Forester. Bruce also shared some of his notes from the walk. Jon said that Breck's report is still applicable and should be followed if cutting is planned. Jon described the woods as "on cruise control" with a high proportion of fairly low quality trees. He said that Ben Fisk is doing a good job of managing his maple tapping operation but should remove the few taps from trees less than 12" diameter and change tubing where it crosses recreational trails. Jon suggested we strengthen our partnership with Ben by using a lease and setting up clear guidelines about trails and number of taps.

Members expressed their thanks to Jon Nute for his excellent advice on the Town Forest.

Members agreed that the current number of 1,165 taps should not be increased.

Members asked Bruce to write Ben a letter enclosing Jon Nute's report, requesting Ben to raise or break lines that are crossing trails within two weeks of the letter, to not plan on increasing the number of taps, and to attend the June 10th TCC meeting to help draft a new agreement.

Planning for Town Forest Presentation and tour, including proposed easement: Members decided to offer a tour for the Select Board in October after leaves have fallen so that they can learn about the Forest and reasons for the proposed easement. Then a public presentation, including Eric's capstone project, would be offered followed by a tour of the Town Forest, also in October.

Map cabinet location: John reported that the TCC map cabinet stored above the Town Hall does not need to be moved at present. A new storage space may be constructed in this area.

Conservation land: A parcel that is for sale was discussed as a potential conservation purchase. *John will look further into this matter and report at the next meeting.*

Meeting ended at 7:20 pm. The next meeting is on Monday, June 10th at 6:00 PM.

Minutes submitted by Bruce Kantner. *Italics* above indicate tasks to be done or motions.