

**Town of Epsom
Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2021, at 6:00pm**

Meeting Attendees: Chad Decker, Member; Kate Champney, member; Joy Sheehan (Budget Rep), Cheryl Gilpatrick (Selectmen Representative); AJ Gagnon, and Robin Sweeney.

Call to Order & Agenda

Kate Champney called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. The agenda was reviewed. No changes were made.

Meet and Introduce New Commission Members

All Members and attendees introduced themselves. AJ and Robin both noted they are interested in joining the Commission. AJ stated he has signed paperwork at the Town office and Robin stated she still needs to do so.

Town Forest Update and Monitoring

Chad provided an update on the status of the Town Forester and his work. Chad stated the Forester is currently out of State, so his work is temporarily on hold. Chad also outlined some of the other information to the new members about the work of the Forester, including the plan to create a new trail through part of the new lot, and the timber harvest to help with forest management and updating the parking lot. Chad also updated the new members of the purpose of Bear Paw and the role in managing the boundaries and use of the town Forest Land.

Meadow's report on Old Home Day Rocks

Cheryl noted that Meadow Wysocki of the Old Home Day Association had placed the rocks painted by the attendees at Old Home Weekend, in the Town Forest trail near the Old Foundation, as planned on September 12, 2021. She noted no members of the public attended the placement and there did not end up being a trail walk afterwards due to no attendance.

Other Business:

Budget: Cheryl noted that the BOS will be setting dates for the start of the Budget discussion. She noted a copy of the Commission's budget is ready for Alison to pick-up, if she hasn't already, so she can review it with the Commission Members and determine what the Commission wants to put in for numbers. Joy asked if the Commission has met before (meaning last year) to determine the budget numbers as a group. Chad and Kate noted they thought they had been apart of the process, but they noted it may have been after the budget had already been set. Cheryl suggested the Commission members meet to discuss the budget soon as the first round of proposed numbers will be reviewed by the BOS soon. She will let Alison know the date the budget is due.

Commissioner's Meeting: Chad noted there is a meeting of the Commissioners. He was unsure of the details but wanted everyone to know it was coming soon.

The meeting adjourned at 6:20pm.