

Manchester Conservation Commission
March 5, 2020 meeting
Convened at 7 pm.

Members present: Jeff Janell, Fred Snow, Jean-Luc Theriault, Deb Plengey, Sara Kingdon, Garry Hinkley (guest), April Gay (guest). (Additional guests for the 6-7 pm Trails Work Group meeting included Julie Isbell, Rosemary Presnar, and— by phone— Elizabeth Brown.)

1. Minutes from February 6, 2020 MCC meeting reviewed and amended.
2. Update on Town Forest Trails: The work group did site walk today and also met just prior to today's MCC meeting. Possible parking areas discussed, including at the newly acquired tower site, at the potential Kerns Hill Rd access point, and at the Res. The right of way at the end of Beacon would need to be clarified and discussed further with Hallowell. Jean-Luc will make initial inquiries in this regard. Garry said the Mountain Bike Club tentatively plans to seek grant funding for a Manchester Woods project in 2021. Julie Isbell (NPS) confirmed funding is available for mapping the site, with a goal of layering information on the maps to facilitate communication with stakeholders. Garry plans to speak with a nearby landowner. Garry will also request an on-site meeting with CMP staff. A future proposal letter to CMP will likely include the following topics: parking, wet site work, signs and/or kiosk placement, understanding CMP's current policy regarding trail use by snowmobiles/ATVs. The work group anticipates the next site walk April 2, 2020, prior to MCC meeting.
3. Solid Waste update: April reported information from Lesley Jones (Augusta Public Works) that the number of Manchester residents purchasing Hatch Hill permits has increased significantly. No data available from Augusta as yet regarding tonnage brought to HH by Manchester residents although some data is available for tonnage brought in by commercial haulers. April plans further contact with local schools re: recycling, possibly in the form of a short survey provided to school staff to assess interest in future projects. Sara reported information from Troiano Waste Services that this company is currently working with DEP on permitting a Transfer Station in Gardiner. Unexpected wetlands on the site have necessitated changes in their process. Sara hopes to learn more from the company later this month about plans for this site.
4. Legislative update: LD 2104 ('An Act to Support and Increase the Recycling of Packaging') had a hearing February 26, 2020 before the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources. The Maine Municipal Association supported the bill, with modifications. The Maine State Chamber of Commerce and the Maine Farm Bureau testified in opposition to the bill. Currently the bill language exempts producers with <1 million gross revenue in the prior calendar year.
5. Planning Board update: Jeff Reardon not available for MCC meeting, due to meeting of Planning Board occurring simultaneously.
6. Manchester Roadside Cleanup April 25, 2020: Garry will contact the Boy Scouts, the Snowmobile Club, and Hope Baptist Church about possible participation. Shenna has connected with Kennebec Savings Bank in the past regarding their participation and hopefully can contact them this year. Deb will update the posters. Garry will update the flyer/press release and will check on supplies for litter pickup. Garry/Town Manager will order dumpsters. Deb/Fred have offered truck services. Discussion about possible solicitation of donation of coffee/snacks.
7. Other: Jeff J reported that B. Moss has expressed interest in re-joining MCC. Jeff J and Garry will facilitate this, including communication with the Board of Selectmen when needed. Garry also said a local Eagle Scout is interested in a project.

Meeting adjourned at 7:49 pm.

Next meeting: April 2, 2020, at 7 pm, at Manchester Town Office.