

Manchester Conservation Commission

May 10, 2018

Present: Garry Hinkley, Annie Reiter, Jeff Reardon, Jean-luc Theriault, Fred Snow (assoc)

Minutes approved from last meeting.

John from Two Trees gave report on harvest operations at Fairbanks. There are no streams on property due to well drained soils though there is a wetland in NW corner, which is flagged along with boundary lines. Trees to be harvested are painted. Saw timber inventory is primary value, and overall showed a value estimate of 30 to 40 thousand net income to town. Pulpwood doesn't lend as much value. They found more saw timber, especially 20 year old pines that have sprung up from last harvest, much of which was thinned out and allowed more light in. Pine and oak predominate, pine is quite straight but oak has low branches that reduce value of wood. They now will allow loggers to come in to bid on operation, feel they can do this at any time of year because it is so dry. It is questioned if this needs to be open to public bidding, will at least post on website. Will send notices to abutters. Raise question of leaving slash on edges since it is contiguous to multi-use trails. We can select bids for those who do the work the way we want. Will need a small amount of road work over a stream. This property is seen as having a 20 year cycle before next possible thinning/light harvest.

Kennebec West had a meeting on 4/19, talked about wrapping up this year in a June to June cycle. Interest continues to grow. Monmouth will vote on volunteer support farm ordinance vote coming up. They are putting up tractor signs on Prescott Rd.

Roadside Cleanup- Cost just over \$1,000 to haul away trash. Thank yous to snowmobile club, Boy Scouts, and Church. Need to thank Pizza Stone and KSB. It considered a success, we think it was the 13<sup>th</sup> edition.

Discuss if we could do informational releases to inform people of the upcoming ordinance that would be on June 12, 2018 ballot, not Town Meeting. Asked us if anyone would put together a release for the newspaper. Will try to have town and private citizens also distribute informational materials. We will put a waterproof notice on the bullet. We are encouraged to put out word of mouth about this.

Town manager has been asked if we could revisit the licensing of trash haulers. Some concerns about decrease in recycling markets, contamination in single sort.

Res project with Hollowell moves forward with user survey. There is heavy usage and trails are showing wear and tear. Hoping to get mapping and points of interest up. Looking ahead we will want to have joint trail groups go out to clean up after harvest at Jamies Pond. Need to have decking replaced on Forest Trail, could Boy Scouts do that?

MEACC will be sending out a newsletter soon, hoping to do some "visioning" and contacting all CCs around Maine. Meeting adjourned 8:30 PM.