**Town of Tinmouth**

**Conservation Commission**

**Minutes**

**August 21, 2017**

Members present: Doug Fontein, Ann Czar, Barbara Held, Nelson Jaquay, Robbie Leeds, Chuck Bronk

Public present: Gail Fallar, Ray Pratt

Doug called the meeting to order 7:33 pm

Minutes from 5/22/17 meeting accepted as written

Agenda additions and tabled items: Four Winds Program – Nelson Jaquay.

***Old Business:***

Doug Fontein gave an update on the Amphibian Crossing signs. Chuck Bronk has repaired two of the six remaining signs, which are now in storage for the next crossing season. Barbara Held noted the small Duck Crossing signs which have been placed near Ballou’s Swamp and a discussion of what signage might be commercially available and what techniques might reduce theft/damage, followed. Chuck agreed to search the web and present alternatives at the next meeting.

Doug reported that he had cleared the blowdowns on the trail up to the overlook, but that additional work would require a group work day, particularly for the trail beyond the Gilmore property. All agreed to set Saturday September 9th as a work day, meeting at the Community Center parking lot. Additional work may continue on the afternoon of Sunday September 10th. Doug listed possible equipment needs under the heading “Weapon of Choice.”

***New Business:***

Nelson Jaquay gave a brief overview of the Drachman trails and agreed to work on flagging them as they are heavily overgrown and in need of clearing. Once cleared the concept would be that Ruth Drachman would be consulted prior to any use.

Doug reviewed the Northwoods Stewardship Center and some of the information on the web site that he put in the draft agenda, which was suggested by Bob Lloyd. While this might prove to be a means to maintaining the upper reaches of the Purchase Loop, some preparation would be required. Doug agreed to initiate a contact with this group for possible assistance this coming summer.

Finally there was a discussion of possible uses for the Town lot behind the Transfer Station. This once was a cornfield and it is crossed by a snowmobile trail. A possible recreation use might be a Frisbee golf course. Doug and Robbie Leeds described the construction, equipment, and use of such a facility to the committee. Access might be an issue of concern given the semi-landlocked nature of the site. Gail Fallar pointed out that access was being considered as part of the master plan for the Transfer Station. Maintenance issues and the public or town only use of such a facility were discussed. It was agreed that Doug and Robbie would attend the next Select Board meeting on Thursday September 14th to introduce this possible use of the site.

Nelson Jaquay described the Four Winds Program that will be included in the curriculum of Tinmouth School this year. The program has volunteers from Town work with the classroom teachers to strengthen Ecosystem studies, following a monthly workshop. It typically involves work outside the classroom. Among others, Nelson and Chuck Bronk will be taking part this year.

Next meeting **Monday** October 16, 2017 at 7:30 P.M.

Adjourned at 8:32pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Chuck Bronk, Secretary