Meeting Minutes – Rowe Conservation Commission – November 3, 2015

Present:

Virginia Gabert, Prue Berry, Myra Carlow, Ramon Sanchez – Commission (Bob

Jesse Laford (NEE), Matt Lewis (NEE), David Lunetta (NEE), Marshall Olsen

(Bear Swamp Power Co), Colin O'Connor (Brookfield Assistant Project

Manager)

Meeting called to order at 9:31 am.

• Pre-Activity Meeting with Bear Swamp regarding work described in NOI and OOC for the creation of a rustic hiking trail between Zoar Gap and Monroe Bridge:

Myra reviewed proposed special conditions.

Acknowledged that landowner agreements are different format for private landowner vs company owned land.

Brookfield/Bear Swamp is the contact for the project on an ongoing basis.

Marshall Olsen explained the history of the project, which started in approximately 20 years ago when the land was all owned by one landowner. Since then, it has been split to five entities. However, the Bear Swamp project license included the agreement to build this trail. Brookfield re-license "inherited" this responsibility. FRC has allowed seven extensions, and finally all parties have agreed to allow the construction of this trail. The responsibility for construction and maintenance is Bear Swamps. NEE (New England Environmental) is the contractor responsible for design and construction.

Discussion ensued about the impact of the TransCanada bank and roadway restoration project on the ability to build this trail.

The estimated time for completion is within a couple of weeks.

When construction is complete, they will provide a maintenance plan to the Commission and the Commission will evaluate to determine whether to issue a Certificate of Completion.

• Enforcement Order 11 Hazelton Road:

Kim Thayer, a logger from Vermont, believes that they do not need a cutting plan for the Lisa Bryant property because it is under the threshold. Myra highlighted the law specifying that cutting within 200' of a river needs a permit from the Conservation Commission. They are not doing a clear cut, but are cutting approximately 16 Oak trees for timber sale (not personal use). Myra presented draft Enforcement Order, which was ratified.

• Schedule next meeting:

Will be scheduled when needed – via email.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20am.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Gabert

Approved by Commission on (date) 1/19/15

Rannor Law South chair

