PRESENT:
Joe Dembeck, Chairman
Peter G. Whitkop, Vice-Chairman
Derek Ellis
Corey Johnson
Sherri Vigue
Robert McGorty
Cynthia Kirk, Recording Secretary

ABSENT:

1) QUORUM:
Conservation Commission meeting called to order at 6:00 PM, quorum was present.

2) MINUTES OF THE March 3, 2015 CONSERVATION MEETINGS TO BE APPROVED:
Motion by Joe Dembeck to approve the March 3, 2015, Conservation Committee minutes as written. Seconded by Sherri Vigue. Motion passed 6-0.

3) OLD BUSINESS:
Joe gave them an update on the MEACC. He said according to the email they all received it looks like they are trying to re-group and go ahead without Marcel. From what he saw from the email it sounds like they are still a little unorganized so he thinks it might still be a good idea to hold off on renewing their membership at this time until they learn more. Everyone agreed. Derek said he also felt like the MEACC wasn't sure what direction they would be going in the future.

Joe said they will probably have to wait a little bit more before they can get to work on the trail they want to put in by Whitten Brook. Derek said it won't take very long to do that trail once they can get in there.

4) NEW BUSINESS:
- Yankee Woodlot Trail Update
Joe said that last Monday himself as well as Peter and Derek met with Kathy Hopkins and Peter Bastien over at the Extension office to talk about the Yankee Woodlot. He said they really got a full understanding as far as what it happening with it and who is involved with it. Joe said they discussed what everyone here had talked about as far as helping out with the trails. He said they were very interested in including them but they still would have to go before the entire group that oversees it including the USDA and several others. Joe said they also just got an email inviting them to attend their annual meeting on May 4 @ 9:00 am. He said they have put them on as an agenda item to discuss this further. Joe doesn't foresee any problems and hopefully it will work out. Bob asked if all of the agencies that are involved with this woodlot will be attending the annual meeting so that when they leave their they will have an answer as far as the Conservation Commission working on the trails. Peter said that was his understanding. Joe also said that once they go do the work on the trails the extension office should still have the trail maps from before so they should be able to easily update those. Peter said some the signs might have to be replaced depending on what they look like and how updated they are.
Cynthia said the bulletin board is here and she will have Dayson put it up tomorrow in the hallway. Joe said to just let them know when it's up and he has a couple events to put on it. Cynthia asked if they had come up with a title for it yet. They were thinking maybe "Skowhegan Conservation News" and put their logo on it as well. Cindy said to just email her and she can get it printed.

5) **UPCOMING WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES:**
Cindy said the Open House for the Recycling Center is scheduled for June 13, 2015.

Joe will find out when the youth fishing day will be at the Hight Pond. He believes it is in May.

6) **ADDITIONAL MEMBER & STAFF ITEMS:**
Joe said they just got the water quality monitoring report from IF&W today. Joe has forwarded it to everyone. Everyone reviewed the results. Joe will find out if this is something we can put up on the website. He said that Maryellen should be getting in touch with him soon to set up the training for this year's monitoring. Peter said she had mentioned that they might only have to monitor once every couple weeks instead of every week this year. Derek said it looks like they were very happy with the work that Joe and Peter did last year. Joe said everyone is welcome to help them this year if they want.

Joe asked if anyone went to the Maine Water Conference. Derek said he did and it was very good and a lot of new information this year. He said it is worth going to but maybe not every year since they did repeat some stuff from last year. Derek said he did talk to a couple people from the Auburn Conservation Commission about what they have going on in their area. Very similar to the project we are doing.

Bob said he attended a meeting that had Matt Keister there talking about a project he is planning to do with his middle school class. They will be doing mapping of some of the culverts here in Skowhegan. Bob didn't know if we should have him come to their next meeting and tell them more about this project and see if the Conservation Commission could help in any way. Corey asked where they are thinking of doing the mapping. Bob said he thinks they are still working on the plan now. Everyone agreed they should invite him to the next meeting. Bob will touch base with him. Corey said he could get some maps for him if he needs them.

Sherri said the Maple tour went well and she was surprised how many people they had considering how cold and windy it was and they didn't have any sap.

Motion by Bob McGorty to adjourn at 6:35 pm. Seconded by Joe Dembeck. Motion passed 6-0. Next meeting scheduled for May 5, 2015.

Minutes approved May 5, 2015

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Chairman