

Atkinson Conservation Commission Minutes
Sunday June 3, 2018 – Site Walk
6 Upland Lane
Approved June 12, 2018

Members Present:

Paul Wainwright, Chair
Dan Kimball
Scott Kukshel
Dennis Krause

Others Present:

Charles George

1. Call to order, Attendance

Chair Paul Wainwright called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM, Sunday, June 3, 2018. Mr. Wainwright declared that a quorum was present.

2. Site Walk of Conservation Land - Map 4 Lot 46

The purpose of the meeting was to perform a site walk of the Town Forest conservation land known as Map 4 Lot 46, and was in response to a complaint from Mr. Charles George that the forest was an eyesore and needed to be cleaned up. Mr. George's home abuts this Town Forest.

While Mr. George was at his home during our visit, he did not actually accompany us back into the woods.

What we observed was a fairly normal forest. There were many healthy trees, some dead ones, and a few that had been brought down by storm damage or other causes. Since this is a mature forest, there was very little surface vegetation. The few dead and downed trees were providing habitat for animals, and their decay would eventually provide replenishment to the soil. To remove them would not only deprive the forest of these benefits, but also the process of removing them could disturb the forest floor and create erosion problems, given the relative lack of surface vegetation and the fairly steep slope of the lot.

The consensus was that this is a forest, not a public park.

Mr. Kimball made a motion to leave the forest as it is. Mr. Kukshel seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously, 4/0/0.

3. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at about 1:30 PM.