

DRAFT
North Hampton Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
July 12, 2016

Administrative

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM. The agenda was posted in Compliance with RSA 91A requirements.

Roll Call

Attendance included Chris Ganotis (Chair), Lisa Wilson (Vice Chair), Kathy Grant, Philip Thayer and Andrew Vorkink via telephone.

Consideration of Minutes of 5-10-16 and 6-14 -16

After review of the May 10 meeting minutes, minutes, ***a motion was made by Kathy Grant, duly seconded by Philip Thayer, to accept the minutes as written.*** The motion carried with a 4-0 vote with one abstention.

After review of the June 14 meeting minutes, ***a motion was made by Andy Vorkink and duly seconded by Lisa Wilson, to accept the minutes as written.*** The motion carried with a 4-0 vote with one abstention

New Business

Select Board appointment of Mr. Shep Kroner for Commission Membership

At its meeting of July 11, 2016, the Select Board approved the appointment of Shep Kroner to the Conservation Commission for a three-year term.

FB Environmental Update

Little River Water Quality Testing

Little River water quality testing was conducted for several sampling locations using a small budget residual from the Fiscal 2016 budget and a memorandum was sent to the Commission highlighting the test results. Further testing plans and limited sampling began in June and July.

Subsequent to the update, the Commission engaged in lengthy deliberation relating to the importance of identifying and mitigating septic system failures, since the 2015 test results and recent results indicated bacterial levels which exceeded the safe level standard. Further deliberation stressed the

contributing problem of the annual Beach Advisories, particularly following rain events when septic systems may be leaching and surface water runoff may be exacerbating the bacterial levels in the Little River. It was concluded that further work is needed by Town officials to find ways to identify and mitigate failing septic systems which may be contributing to the unsafe bacterial levels in the river and at the beach. The Chair added that the Commission's septic system outreach program with leaflets at the Town Office, Town web site articles and brochures, Town newsletter references and announcements in public meetings have stressed the importance of septic system pumping and maintenance to reduce the bacterial levels in the Town's watercourses.

After discussion, the Chair indicated that he would follow up on his recent e-mail to the Select Board on the issue by meeting with the Town Administrator to discuss further actions the Town might take to mitigate septic failures affecting the Little River.

Luff Conservation Parcels Stewardship Plan Proposal

Lisa Wilson prepared and presented a draft of the Stewardship Management Plan for the Commission's review and comments. Of primary focus are the goals and objectives planned for the parcels. Lisa pointed out that the primary intent with the land is to preserve its natural state to its fullest extent. Further discussion ensued concerning future trails and trail maintenance requirements and responsibilities. She added that the Access Agreement for the trail to the Conservation land is recorded in a separate deed and is an integral part of the Stewardship Plan. She further suggested that the Commission continue to work closely with the Southeast Land Trust of NH and act upon their recommendations.

Request to Place Parcel in Conservation by Mr. John Cafarella

No further action was taken pending the Commission's receipt of a site map from the owner showing the land area proposed for conservation.

Old Business

Conservation Sub-Division Easement Agreement 142 Mill Rd Map 12, Lot 67

Lisa Wilson will contact Mr. Skowronski to find out whether he was able to engage the Society for the Protection of NH Forests as the easement holder and steward of the proposed conservation parcel. If unsuccessful, Lisa will

also follow up with the Rockingham County Conservation District to request potential easement stewardship for the parcel. It was noted that in view of the prior decision of the Commission, this item would henceforth not be included in the Commission agenda unless there were further developments to report.

Easement Sub-Committee Update on Deed Reviews

Andrew Vorkink reported that the next action will be the Select Board public hearing scheduled for July 25, 2016 to consider approval of conservation deed restrictions language for the three categories of properties needing amended deeds. The Chair further confirmed the intent of the Luck parcel was for conservation after speaking with and receiving an e-mail on June 29, 2016 from Shelly Luck Cross indicating that the parcel was donated to the Town by Mr. Luck with the intention of the land being used for conservation.

Other Business

The Chair reminded the Commission that a presentation is scheduled for the August 9 meeting by UNH Intern Madeline Dilonna from the UNH Cooperative Extension regarding the NH Citizens Planner program and survey for volunteer services.

There being no further business to discuss, ***a motion was made by Kathy Grant, duly seconded by Lisa Wilson, to adjourn the meeting.*** The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Ganotis
Chairman

“These minutes are prepared by the Recording Secretary within five (5) days as required by NH RSA 2,11. They will not be finalized until approved by the majority vote by the Conservation Commission.”