

DRAFT
North Hampton Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2019

Administrative:

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm.

Roll Call:

Members Present: Lisa Wilson (Chair), Frank Arcidiacono, Shep Kroner, Lauri Etela, Phil Thayer, and Andrew Vorkink.

Members of the Public: Diane Louise Paul, Marcia Forest (Woodland Road Residents); Joseph Coronati of Jones and Beach Engineers, Inc. (JBE), and Brenden Quigley of Gove Environmental Services, Inc.

Approval of February 12, 2019 Draft Meeting Minutes:

After some discussion, ***a motion was made by Lauri Etela, duly seconded by Andrew Vorkink, to approve the February 12, 2019 minutes.*** The motion carried.

New Business:

Hampton Rod and Gun Club: Department of Environmental Services Contaminating Site Management Remedial Action Plan Check List (79 pages) for Review and comment to Select Board. After some discussion, ***a motion was made by Andrew Vorkink, duly seconded by Frank Arcidiacono, for the Chair to draft a letter to the Select Board suggesting that the DES and Select Board create a schedule or timeline to complete the Remedial Action Plan to eliminate contamination on the site in accordance with the recommendations from the DES to determine the best options for removing and eliminating the contamination.***

Discussion of Findings from March 12, 2019 Sitewalk (4:00 p.m.) Patrick/Woodland Road Division – The March site walk was canceled because the Little Boar’s Head Planning Board had not yet accepted jurisdiction of the application. Diane Louise Paul, and Marcia Forest, residents on Woodland Road, voiced their concerns about the proposed subdivision that they noted was in close proximity to private ground water wells and wetlands.

Letter dated February 25, 2019 NH DES, Receipt of Wetlands Permit Application: File Number 2019-00653; Subject Property: 58 Lafayette Road. N. Hampton NH Tax Map 7 Lot 118. Joseph Coronati (JBE) presented the “*NH DES Wetlands Bureau Minimum Impact Dredge and Fill Application*” to the Commission. The applicant noted that a site walk is scheduled for March 19, 2019. ***A motion was made by Andrew Vorkink, duly seconded by Philip Thayer, to authorize the Chair to forward to the DES the letter***

dated February 20, 2019 from the Conservation Commission to the Planning Board stating the Commission's comments and recommendations regarding the project.

Discussion of Future Projects SCA NH (Student Conservation Association of New Hampshire): SCA NH serves land management agencies and communities throughout New Hampshire to complete vital conservation and resource projects. The Conservation Commission will consider applying to the organization to construct a trail from Woodland Road to the Little River Nature Conservancy (The recently donated Higginson Parcel).

Andy Vorkink reported that the Planning Board approved the deeded lot line adjustment of a 15' wide strip of land about 220' long on Map 12-30-21 owned by Mr. Gregoire to be conveyed to the Commission and added to the Higginson lot (Map 6-80). It was also noted that that donor of the property required that the Conservation Easement specified no hunting on the property.

Old Business:

Conservation Easement Subcommittee Update: Access to the Higginson property will be complete upon the expiration of the 30-day appeal period following the March 5, 2019 Planning Board approval.

Lauri Etela and the Conservation Commission thanked Andy Vorkink for the extraordinary work he accomplished to provide public access to the Little River Nature Conservancy. The Commission also expressed gratitude to Wendy Higginson for donating the land and will notify her of the public access from Woodland Road.

Trails/Conservation Land Maintenance Update: Philip Thayer reported that he received a preliminary copy by Christopher Holden to clean up the green trail for his Eagle Scout project. ***A motion was made by Shep Kroner, duly seconded by Andrew Vorkink, to authorize Phil Thayer to sign the application for the Eagle Scout Project and to authorize Phil Thayer to be the contact person for the Eagle Scout Project to clear trails on the Dustin Farm.*** The motion carried.

Conservation Signs: Andrew and Patrica Vorkink posted no hunting signs on the Higginson property.

Correspondence:

- **Invoice dated February 21, 2019, 2019 JBE; Project No. 18159: 5 Squier Drive, Survey Work, Town of North Hampton. \$1, 590.65.**
- **Letter dated February 2019 from NH SCA Corps** to introduce the work of the organization to the Commission.
- **Letter dated January 29, 2019 from Aquarion Water Company:** Aquarion is performing source water (wellhead) protection inspections of local businesses and conducting an education program to all residents in the

Wellhead Protection Area. This is a recurring program conducted every three years (last conducted in 2016) to protect safe drinking water by minimizing contamination risks to local water sources.

Other Business: Phil Thayer shared the following information received from Barbara Richter, Executive Director of the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions (NHACC): **UNH Extension. New Hampshire BioBlitz Program, open to communities in New Hampshire in 2019.** Building on the work of the **Town and Community Forests Survey**, this program will provide assistance to towns who want to learn what kinds of plants, animals, fungi, and insects (“biodiversity”) can be found on town-owned lands. Communities who are interested in hosting a volunteer BioBlitz, a species scavenger hunt where volunteers work alongside scientists and field experts to find and record as many different species on a property as possible in a short amount of time, can apply to receive assistance from UNH Extension. Data from these events can help communities with stewardship planning and are a fun and engaging way to connect more people to townlands.

UNH Extension is currently accepting applications from communities in New Hampshire to plan, organize, and implement BioBlitz events for Fall 2019. Applications are due May 15, 2019. **Contact Haley Andreozzi, UNH Extension Wildlife Outreach Program Manager at haley.andreozzi@unh.edu or (603) 862-5327**

Transforming Conservation Properties– Agricultural and Stewardship, Tuesday, April 16 from 5 to 7:30 PM, Brentwood Community Center: Potluck dinner to discuss what it would be like to transform municipal lands into working farms. Learn whether open space could be used for farming and how Conservation Commissions can encourage agriculture on conservation land. Tracy Degan from RCCD will offer suggestions on how Commissions can provide space for farmers and cover practical considerations of farming on municipal lands. Jeremy Lougee from Southeast Land Trust will share his perspectives on the value of conserving farmland and the importance of local food production in New Hampshire.

Complaint Letter received via email to Select Board from William Gosselin: On March 11, 2019, the Chair of the Conservation Commission forwarded an email from Mr. Gosselin to Andy Vorkink, *(Chair, Conservation Easement Subcommittee)*. The email from Mr. Gosselin was sent to members of the Select Board regarding activity at the Lamprey Barn. *(The Chair of the Conservation Commission did not receive the email directly because Mr. Gosselin mistakenly addressed the complaint to an incorrect email address.)*

In his email, Mr. Gosselin described events at the barn that he felt were in violation of the terms of the conservation easement.

Andy Vorkink immediately investigated the complaint on March 11, 2019 by contacting Mr. Alan Perkins, the owner of the conservation land and the barn. Andy reported that Mr. Perkins will plan to respond to the complaint via a formal letter. Mr. Perkins replied that he let the barn be used last summer for two charity events to raise funds for the *Easter Seals Veterans Campaign Against Suicide*. The photos of the event were apparently from the caterer's or Easter Seals' website.

The terms of the conservation easement provide for non-commercial recreational use of the property.

Shep Kroner: Shep Kroner reported that his term expired on March 12, 2019. Due to his March 12, 2019 election to the Planning Board for a three-year term, he will be not be seeking another term on the Conservation Commission. Shep thanked the members of the Commission for their service and acknowledged the specific work and accomplishments of the individual members.

The Commission very much appreciated the work Shep Kroner has accomplished on the Commission and thanked him for his service.

There being no further business to discuss, ***a motion was made by Lisa Wilson to adjourn the meeting.*** The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Beverly Moore
Recording Secretary

“These minutes were prepared within five (5) business days as required by NH RSA 91-A:2, II. They will not be finalized until approved by the majority vote by the Commission.”