

DRAFT
North Hampton Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
December 12, 2017

Administrative

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

Roll Call

Attendance included Lisa Wilson (Chair), Kathy Grant (Vice Chair), Lauri Etela, Philip Thayer, and Andrew Vorkink. Members of the public included Hank Brandt.

Approval of Minutes

After some discussion, a motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2017, with one correction. (Boies Wildlife Reserve - spelling error).

New Business

NHDES Bureau, Minimum Impact Wetland Pond Application

Henry and Jacqueline Brandt, 182 Post Road, Tax Map 18, Lot 38 North Hampton, NH. The application was prepared by Stoney Ridge Environmental. The engineer was unable to attend tonight's meeting. Hank Brandt answered questions from the conservation commission regarding a proposal to install an agricultural pond on the lot referenced above. After some discussion, ***a motion was made by Andrew Vorkink, duly seconded by Philip Thayer, to approve the minimal impact wetland pond application for the pond on the Brandt property, Map 18, Lot 38, provided all conditions are met by the necessary authorities including NRCS/Farm and Ranch Land Protection Programs, Southeast Land Trust of NH and DES.*** The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Correspondence: A letter was received from the Southeast Land Trust of New Hampshire dated October 27, 2017 requiring that the Town on its own or in conjunction with Sagamore Hampton Golf Club, remove the existing "Keep Out Safety Zone" signs. The signs may be replaced with ones that restrict hunting only. The "NO HUNTING" signs

were approved by the SELT and Sagamore Golf will replace the existing signs.

Old Business

Conservation Easement Subcommittee Update:

A workshop scheduled for November 28, 2017 was held to discuss monitoring conservation easements for the approaching winter and spring. Commissioners will be asked to use aerial maps to begin monitoring easements. A list of conservation parcels will be distributed to Commissioners who will be asked to use Google Earth images to help monitor the conservation land. The information gathered from aerial monitoring will help commissioners determine whether on the ground monitoring will be required. Discussion ensued regarding recruiting a member of the Conservation Commission to join the Conservation Easement Subcommittee to fill a vacancy following the departure of a member of the subcommittee. ***A motion was made by Kathy Grant, duly seconded by Philip Thayer to nominate Lauri Etela to fill the vacancy on the subcommittee.*** The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Management Plan for Forest Hills Farm Update

The Conservation Commission received a letter dated October 12, 2017 from the Southeast Land Trust of New Hampshire stating that the Management Plan for Forest Hills Farm was approved. A color copy of the approved plan will be made and filed at the Town Office and digital files will be made available.

Winnicut River Watershed Management Plan Update

Kathy Grant received a bill from NH Rivers Council for testing done this past summer. After some discussion, ***a motion was made by Kathy Grant, duly seconded by Philip Thayer, to pay the \$700.00 bill.*** The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Mowing Updates

Walter Nordstrom completed the mowing of the Community Garden. Commissioners observed that conservation land off Buckskin Lane has been mowed. Phil Thayer will find out who mowed the property and the Commission will need to post the boundary of the conservation land.

Discussion of Conservation Rules and Procedures

After some discussion about documenting Conservation Commission Rules and Procedures, Lisa Wilson will draft a document outlining general rules and procedures and will draft and an updated version of the Conservation Easement Policy Statement for discussion and review by the Commission at its next meeting.

The Chair will contact the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions to inquire about ordering updated Conservation Handbooks (The Greenbook) for commissioners and if not updated, ordering the existing edition for new members.

Correspondence

Correspondence from Reagan Bissonette, Esq. Director of Easement Stewardship and Counsel, Society for the Protection of NH Forests: In an email dated October 16, 2017, it was stated that it is the Forest Society's practice to notify landowners before visiting a conserved property and any clearing of trails for "non-commercial public recreation must be performed under a coordinated plan for the sites, soils and wild habitat.

Status of Conservation Easement Current Conditions Report from the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests for the Boies Wildlife Preserve: The report was approved by the Select Board and mailed to the Forest Society.

Southeast Land Trust of New Hampshire: Approved the Forest Hills Farm Management Plan in a letter dated October 12, 2017 as discussed earlier.

New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions Membership Renewal: After some discussion, *a motion was made by Kathy Grant, duly seconded by Philip Thayer, to pay \$333.00 to renew membership to NH Association of Conservation Commissions and to pay the bill for the "No Hunting" signs for \$136.92. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.*

After some discussion, a motion was made by Andrew Vorkink, seconded by Kathy Grant to purchase Conservation Commission

Handbooks for members who need them. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Approval of Draft Minutes

After some discussion, a motion made to approve the Draft minutes for meetings held on November 28, 2017 and December 7, 2017, which included entering into non-public sessions. After some discussion, the minutes were approved.

Other Business

The Commission discussed the need to make copies of the Trail Brochure for residents and to have copies available in town (for example, the Library, Clerk's Office, and Town Hall).

There being no other business to discuss, a motion was made by Andrew Vorkink, duly seconded by Kathy Grant, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Beverly Moore
Recording Secretary

"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".