

DRAFT
North Hampton Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
7-13-21

Administrative:

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.
RSA 91-A requirements.

Roll Call:

Members present: Lisa Wilson, (Chair), Kathy Grant, (Co-Chair), Frank Arcidiacono, Dave Ciccalone, Audrey Prior and Phil Thayer. ***A motion was made by Kathy Grant, duly seconded by Phil Thayer, to approve Andrew Vorkink to join the meeting from a remote location.*** Lisa Wilson called a roll call vote and the motion carried.

Approval of May 11, 2021 Draft Minutes: After review of the May 11, 2021 minutes, ***a motion was made by Kathy Grant, duly seconded by Audrey Prior, to accept the minutes as amended, with one correction (the spelling of Dave Ciccalone's last name).*** The Chair called a roll call vote and the motion carried with Phil Thayer abstaining,

New Business:

Trails Notification Statutory Permit-By-Notification (SPN), Oliver Brook Trail

Submission: Zachary Colatch, Coordinator SCA-Ameri Corps, and officials at NH DES including Eben Lewis determined that the Statutory Permit-By-Notification should be sufficient to proceed with the trail work. ***A motion was made by Phil Thayer, duly seconded by Dave Ciccalone, to authorize the chair to submit the application to the NH DES and Town Administrator along with the \$25 application fee.*** The Chair called a roll call vote and the motion carried.

Old Business:

Conservation Easement Update: Andrew Vorkink reported that the Nordstrom Wetlands Permit Application to the NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) that was submitted on April 30, 2021 received the required permission from the abutters for impacts within 10-feet of property line – Tax Map 17 Lot 72. Upon receiving the final approval from the NHDES the conservation land will be registered and transferred to the town.

The Commission received updates from SELT and the Forest Society. This year SELT will plan to conduct aerial monitoring of Forest Hills Farm and the Little River conservation parcels. Kathy Grant was present during the The Forest Society monitoring of the Boies conservation land in July. It was noted that “No Hunting” signs were posted on the conservation land last year. The Commission discussed that past and present members of the Conservation Commission recall that the grantor drafted a letter stating that is was the grantors’ intent to prohibit hunting on the property which is designated as a

wildlife preserve. The Forest Society interprets the language in the deed to allow hunting. To date the letter from the grantor could not be found in the town's files. A member of the Commission will try to contact an heir to the Boies estate for more information.

Trail Maintenance Update: Phil Thayer is waiting to hear from the Boy Scouts about plans to construct a bridge on the Dustin property. Phil will also contact Mark Lariviere to mow the Community Garden after July 15 once the ground dries.

Oliver Brook Trail Update: Lisa Wilson ordered lime green trail blazers and custom labels. The Conservation Commission previously approved signage totaling \$442.00. Lisa also reported that Mr. Buddy Moulton, Home Depot Pro Desk Supervisor, submitted an application to the Home Depot Foundation for grant funds to help offset lumber costs for the Oliver Brook Trail project. If awarded the grant, the Commission will receive funds in the form of gift cards.

The Commission thanks John Hubbard and the Department of Public Works for the beautiful job creating the parking area and entrance to the Oliver Brook trail.

Philbrick Pond Saltmarsh Drainage Update: Frank Arcidiacono reported that after a minor setback, Josh Bouchard reported that the wetlands permit has been accepted and that the project is scheduled to be completed in late fall.

PFAS: The Commission discussed the spread of these chemicals from multiple sources included Coakley Landfill and discussed the possibility of receiving an update about water sampling and clean-up efforts.

Other Business:

Phil Thayer reminded the Commissioners and public about BioBlitz. A BioBlitz is a species scavenger hunt where anyone can help find and record data on as many different species (plants, animals, insects, fungi) as possible in a certain area. UNH Extension is sponsoring the NH BioBlitz during the month of September to get community members outside exploring species found on town-owned land in NH!

UNH Cooperative Extension created resources for participants to share via town newsletters, websites, and social media pages to help engage community members, including a press release, social media posts and photos. The goal is to help people learn more about nature to better protect the environment.

Correspondence:

- A. **Email dated May 16 from Pat McClean, Chair, Dog Park Committee:** Pat McClean inquired whether any conservation parcels might be suitable for a Dog Park, including revisiting the Community Garden after learning the NOAA restrictions no longer apply to the parcel. It was discussed that the D'Urso deed restrictions

do not appear to be compatible with a dog park and the expanded use of the Community Garden. Pat asked the Commission to keep the Dog Park Committee in mind if any conservation land becomes available.

- B. **Letter dated June 4, 2021: Groundwater Contamination Notification Notice:** The NH DES is required by statute to notify owners of all property which contains a water supply well and is within 500 horizontal feet of a well where contamination is discovered. PFAS's were found in the rear of Mill Road that exceed Ambient Groundwater Quality Standard at 23.4 PPT where the state standard has been lowered to 20 PPT from 70 PPT. NH DES encouraged the sampling of private wells for these chemicals. Reverse Osmosis and other filtration can remove these "Forever" chemicals from drinking water.
- C. **Email Dated June 21, 2021 from Amanda Hollenbeck, SELT:** monitoring notification for the Little River and Forest Hills Conservation Land.
- D. **Email Dated June 24 from Stacie Hernandez, Conservation Easement Steward, Society for the Protection of NH Forests:** Monitoring notification.
- E. **Email Dated July 3, 2019 from Robert Pruyne, Rockingham Planning Commission, North Hampton Septic System Inventory Project Update.** Mr. Rob Pruyne, GIS Manager, Rockingham Planning Commission is now in charge of this project which has been delayed due to the pandemic. Rob will be asking the Commission for an extension after learning that the NH DES no longer has records of septic systems that date as far back as 1960, but only has records from 2015 to 2020. Rob hopes to have an interim deliverable by the August meeting based upon a new parcel dataset that he is completing for the Town.

To date as reported by Rob:

- RPC has added a fair amount of data on initial building date of parcels;
- NH DES supplied septic permit data for about 200 parcels with permits from 2015-2020
- Rob added some more data manually from the NHDES OneStop Data Viewer, which displays data in an interactive map format.
- Wants to coordinate with the Commission to determine whether there is value in the Commission looking at Town building records to add into the database.
- Work with Commission to create a scoring system to evaluate risk of failure and create map of risk based on proximity to surface waters.

At 8:20 p.m., **a motion was made by Phil Thayer, duly seconded by Frank Arcidiacono, to enter into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II(d):** *Consideration of the acquisition, sale or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community.* The Chair called a roll call vote and the motion carried.

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

A motion to leave non-public session and return to public session was made by Phil Thayer, seconded by Audrey Prior. The Chair called a roll call vote and the motion carried.

Public session reconvened at 9:10 p.m.

A motion was made by Phillip Thayer, duly seconded by Audrey Prior to seal the minutes because it is determined that divulgence of this information would likely render a proposed action ineffective. The Chair called a roll call vote and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Phil Thayer, duly second by Audrey Prior, to adjourn meeting at approximately 9:11 p.m. The Chair called a roll call vote and the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Wilson