

## DRAFT

### North Hampton Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes – May 9, 2023

**Administrative:** The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. and Channel 22 from the Town Hall. The agenda was posted in compliance with RSA 91-A requirements.

#### Roll Call

**Members present:** Lisa Wilson, (Chair), Dave Ciccalone, Lauri Etela, Audrey Prior and Andrew Vorkink. A roll call vote was taken.

**Approval of April 11, 2023 Draft Minutes:** After review of the April 11, 2023 minutes, ***a motion was made by Lauri Etela, duly seconded by Audrey Prior to accept the minutes as written, with one correction (the spelling of Allyson Ryder's name).*** The motion carried with Dave Ciccalone abstaining.

#### New Business:

Election of Conservation Commission Chair, Vice Chair, Conservation Easement Subcommittee Chair, and Trail Maintenance Subcommittee Chair. ***A motion was made by Lauri Etela, duly seconded by Dave Ciccalone, to re-elect Lisa Wilson as Chair, Kathy Grant as Vice Chair, Andrew Vorkink as Conservation Easement Subcommittee Chair, and Phil Thayer as Trail Maintenance Subcommittee Chair.*** The motion carried.

#### Old Business:

**Conservation Easement Subcommittee Update:** Andrew Vorkink reported that he and Lisa Wilson met last month with a property owner who recently purchased a land-locked parcel that abuts the Dalton Town Forest conservation land. The property owner's attorney and the Commission's outside counsel attended the meeting to discuss the terms of the conservation easement deed. The Commission pointed out that the terms of the easement prohibit the use of motorized vehicles on the conservation land. Logs have been placed across entrance to the Town Forest trail along with a sign stating: "No Vehicles Beyond This Point." At the Town Forest Andy also posted "No Hunting" signs. The Commission plans to install a permanent gate at the trail entrance just beyond the parking area.

Future work at the 8-acre Town Forest includes marking and mapping the trails and updating the town website with information about the trails.

**Trail Maintenance Update:** Lisa Wilson thanked Donna McCay, a Deer Run Road resident, and the Deer Run Road and Red Fox Road neighbors for their work to clear the Dustin-Booker Farm red trail off Red Fox Road. The Commission also thanked Phil Thayer for clearing the fallen trees and downed limbs and Kate Dardinski for providing the Commission with an assessment of the work that needs to improve the trail system at Dustin-Booker Farm.

**Future Trail Projects:** The Commission discussed proposed plans to install bog bridges at Dustin-Booker Farm, along the access easement to Forest Hills Farm, and extending the purple trail along the northern border of Forest Hills Farm. Following discussion, ***a motion was made***

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**by Lauri Etela, duly seconded by Audrey Prior, to authorize the Chair to prepare and submit the “Trails Notification Statutory Permit-by-Notification” (SPN) applications for the three trail projects and to approve expenditures up to \$200 for mailing and application fees for the three SPN applications.** The motion carried.

Kate Dardinski prepared an approximate estimate to construct bog bridges, maintenance work, and trail marking and clearing at the Town Forest, Oliver Brook Trail, Dustin-Booker Farm, and Forest Hills Farm totaling \$3,700.00. **A motion was made by Lauri Etela, duly approved by Dave Ciccalone, to approve an expenditure of up to \$5,000 for proposed work.** The motion carried.

**Conservation Signage:** Kate Dardinski installed new signs at Corbett Farm, Robie Conservation Easement, Dustin-Booker Farm and Forest Hills Farm.

**Other Business:** Topics for the summer newsletter and the land use summit include discussion of future trail projects and the NH DES marsh monitor program.

There being no further business to discuss, **a motion was made by Audrey Prior, duly seconded by Lauri Etela,** to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 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”.**