

Town of New Hampton Conservation Commission Minutes

New Hampton Town Office
Upstairs Meeting Room, 6 Pinnacle Hill Rd.
November 14, 2016

Commission members present: R. Leroux, G. DuBois, D. Moore (Chair), R. Pollock
Commission members not present: P. Schlesinger, B. Rolfe.

The Chair opened the meeting at 7:12 P.M.

Minutes from October 10, 2016 meeting approved.

Announcements:

Gordon and Dan led discussion of the Annual Conference of the New Hampshire Conservation Commissions and presented highlights from that event.

Dan updated Commission on latest status of the Vezina easement. It does not appear that the easement was approved by the governing body (Town of New Hampton Selectmen). We are waiting for feedback from Linda Magoon of the NHDES, Wetlands Bureau.

Northern Pass: Barbara requested that the Commission compose a letter addressing the concerns with the project as proposed. Dan wrote a letter and forwarded to Barbara Lucas, New Hampton Town Administrator, highlighting the importance of water quality, scenic beauty and recreation of the Pemigewasset River. These proposed power lines crossing the river three times would severely impact the above stated values. These values are based on the long standing position of the Pemi River Council and long held by the New Hampton Conservation Commission. It has been recommended that the power lines be buried and eliminate the three river crossings.

The Annual Retreat will be held on January 14th, 9-12. The retreat will focus on developing a working plan of the Kelly Drake Property in relationship to other conservation lands. Mike Izzard of the LRPC will attend and get input regarding the New Hampton Open Space Plan. A representative(s) from the New Hampton Historical Society will be invited to attend with regards to the development of the K-D Property and the historical/ cultural resources found on the property.

New Business:

Ashland Conservation Commission requested this Commission beware of the possibility of concerns with a septic and commercial firewood operation on the Ashland and New Hampton town line. After discussion it was decided that the NH Commission needed to have more information on the concerns. Dan will pursue further with Ashland C.C. and speak with Barbara Lucas.

Old Business:

Rick brought several issues for discussion:

Apple tree release and pruning- There still needs to be work in the stand of apple tree to address downed limbs and branches. Issue to be addressed at the retreat.

K-D cellar hole clearing- It was agreed that Rick and Gordon will begin clearing trees and brush around the cellar holes, along with other volunteers. (There is a lingering question regarding a need for a Liability Release Form from the town of New Hampton sign by each individual working on the property on a daily basis. Dan will discuss with Barbara. Work has started on this project).

Signage for conservation land property lines. Bob agreed to have signs printed to clearly mark the property boundaries of all New Hampton conservation lands.

Gordon requested to have a sign made up and placed on the Winona Road the entry point to the Snake River Property. Sign should clearly state that this is conservation land and should be respected as such (not a garbage dump or a place for camping or docking of river craft). A work party should be organized in the spring to clean up refuse found on property.

Dan has submitted the Commission's proposed budget to the Town Administrator and it is under consideration.

Colin Brown has completed marking boundaries on the Snake River and Jenness Spring Properties. He is still working on the K-D property, but should be done soon.

Meeting Adjourned At 8:34 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Gordon DuBois, Secretary
New Hampton Conservation Commission