

**Town of New Hampton
Conservation Commission
Minutes**

New Hampton Town Office
Upstairs Meeting Room, 6 Pinnacle Hill Rd.
October 12, 2015

Commission members present: R. Leroux, G. DuBois, D. Moore (Chair), R. Pollack, B. Rolfe, P. Schlesinger

The Chair opened the meeting at 7:05 P.M.

- 1) Minutes the September, 14 2015 meeting were moved by R. Leroux, seconded by B. Rolfe to be accepted as written. Vote was unanimous.
- 2) Moore reported on a number of communications he has had with Shaun Lagueux, Town Forester, concerning possible work on Kelley-Drake Conservation Area (KDCA). Lagueux suggested a number of ways to address the goals listed in the 11 year old Kelley-Drake Stewardship Management Plan. One approach would be to follow this current management plan and authorize work in releasing apple trees (for which there are some limited funds available from the New Hampshire Fish & Game) and doing some improvement thinning of and small group harvesting from the various timber stands on the property, and this could be done this coming winter. A second approach would be to update the current plan 'in total' by contracting for professional services and waiting to start any work as a connected set of multi-phased projects with a probable start next spring or summer.

Following a discussion of these proposals, Schlesinger motioned and Pollack seconded that we focus on working under current plan and look at what would be need to effectively address the apple release project this winter, with the idea that we might revisit authorizing a more complete update in the future. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

- 3) Moore reported that he that James Viar, an avid hiker, retired NHDOT employee, and current tree nursery worker had contacted Commissioner Du Bois about volunteering to clear brush from the view at Bald Ledge. Moore checked with Barbara Lucas, Town Administrator, about using volunteers to do such work and she indicate that volunteers for the Town need to sign a Volunteer Form, which indicates what activities they are undertaking and that understand they are willing giving of their time, energy, and resources. Lucas also asked that the Commission provide a description of the scope for the project. Schlesinger motion and Rolfe seconded to accept Viar's offer and that commissioners, who are available join in to assist Viar. Vote was unanimous.
- 4) The Jenness Spring (JS) conservation property is the lone remaining property to be walked and examined in accordance with actions set forth at our January 2015 retreat. Following discussion it was decided that Moore would email a list of dates and times for walking the JS with the idea that we want as many commissioners possible to participate and need to post such an activity in order to allow New Hampton citizens to attend.
- 5) Plans for commission review of the conservation easements for properties on the Dixon Hill and at Riverwood were discussed. The following steps were agree upon:

- A. To ensure clarity of the scope of our tasks, a review of the property deeds with detail of the easement's allowable and restricted will be done by the commissioners.
- B. Commissioners would review the PowerPoint prepared by University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension entitled 'Easement Monitoring for Volunteers' in order to familiarize us with the process and procedures. Commissioners would also review a check list template prepared by the New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning for easement monitoring.

6) New Business: None

7) Old Business:

- A. Moore reported that those commissioners, who had their indicated availability, were registered for the upcoming annual meeting of the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commission on Saturday November 7, 2015 at the Pembroke Academy in Pembroke, NH.
- B. Moore related that in his follow up conversation with Barbara Lucas, Town Administrator, about Harold Lamos' concern with Ashland Water & Sewer Department's flushing their water system into Ames Brook through a pipe on his property in New Hampton, Lucas suggested a more direct way for Lamos to get an update on this matter was to talk with selectmen at an upcoming meeting. Moore stated that talked with Lamos and recommended that he request to be on the agenda of a select meeting.
- C. Lastly, concerning the 90 acre parcel on Blake Hill Moore had communicated with Lagueux, who was interested in assisting. Lagueux suggested that there are a multitude of parties that have an interest in doing something to preserve this track of land, and that he could provide some names of persons and organizations that might get involved. Lucas also offered several suggestions. Moore is following up on these suggestions.

The commission voted to adjourn at 8:40 pm

Submitted by

Daniel P. Moore
Acting Scribe