

Town of New Hampton Conservation Commission Minutes

New Hampton Town Office
Upstairs Meeting Room, 6 Pinnacle Hill Rd.
April 10, 2017

Commission members present: R. Leroux, G. DuBois, D. Moore (Chair), R. Pollock, P. Schlesinger. Invited guests: Dan Spearman and Christy Brodeur, students at Plymouth State University.

Meeting called to order by Chairman Moore at 7:02 PM.

Leroux moved and Schlesinger seconded to accept the minutes for the March 13, 2017
Vote was unanimous.

New Business

1. Discussion with Christy Brodeur and Dan Spearman, Plymouth State University students regarding their work with Dr. Len Reitsman on a one credit independent study to research the Kelly Drake property relative to its natural/ cultural/historical resources and the development of activities on the town owned property. Both students introduced themselves and told of their interest in the project. There was a brief introduction to the property: the history, natural resources and the Commission's future plans for the site. Christy and Dan will work with the commission in developing specific outcomes. Christy will focus on the natural resources and recreational potential of the property, while Dan will research its historical/cultural background. Both students are expected to provide recommendations to the Commission the end of May. Chairman Moore will be guiding the students through their project.
2. R. Leroux shared with Commission members, "Taking Action for Wildlife, 2016 Community Assistance Program" sponsored by UNH Cooperative Extension. This is a collaborative effort by NH Fish and Game & Cooperative Extension Service to protect, conserve and manage wildlife habitat. G. DuBois volunteered to follow up with Amanda Stone at UNH to get more information and will report back to Commission at the May meeting.
3. G. DuBois revisited the issue of the K-D property continuing to be abused by snowmobilers and OHRV riders who ride through the property, ignoring the "NO MOTORIZED VEHICLES" signs posted at the parking area. This has been a long standing issue and the Commission discussed at length how the problem can be addressed. G. DuBois informed the NH Fish and Game office in New Hampton and is expecting to be contacted by Conservation Officer Josiah Towne to discuss the issue and enforcement of state laws regarding use of snowmobiles and ATVs on the K-D property that isn't designated for use by snowmobiles or OHRVs. P. Schlesinger suggested an informal meeting with adjacent land owners.

4. A final draft of the Commission By-Laws with one revision from the last review on 3/13 was presented by Chairman Moore. They were accepted and approved. They will now be reviewed by Select Board. If approved the By-Laws will be incorporated into the Commission's operational procedures.
5. The Commission voted to authorize the final payment of \$720 for site work at the Snake River Property to Right Angle Engineering, PLLC.
6. D. Moore and G. DuBois reviewed highlights of the Saving Special Places Conference.
7. Commissioners reviewed potential new members to the Commission. The Commission currently has one vacancy for full membership (three year term) and two vacancies for alternates positions. Several individuals have expressed an interest.
8. A schedule for inspections of conservation easement properties will be taken up at the May meeting.

Old Business

1. Boundary markers-R. Pollack presented the design for the markers. Commission approved the purchase of 500 markers from Voss Signs of Manlius, NY @ \$595.00.
2. Apple tree release work will begin when snow is gone and roads on K-D property are mud free (around May 10).

Meeting adjourned at 9 :15 PM.