

**Town of New Hampton
Conservation Commission
Minutes**

New Hampton Town Office
Upstairs Meeting Room, 6 Pinnacle Hill Rd.
August 10, 2015

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

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

- 1) Minutes the July 13, 2015 meeting were approved; moved by P. Schlesinger, seconded by R. Leroux, and accepted as written for the 5/11/2015 meeting. Vote was unanimous.
- 2) Discussion of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) in New Hampton: The display used at New Hampton's Old Home Day on 8/8/15 served to inform residents of the quarantine measures in effect to halt the spread of the EAB. Because a major vector of infestation is the transportation of camp wood, it was agreed that Moore would deliver material on the quarantine management practices to camp ground on Rte 132N and see about including material in the New Hampton Connection.
- 3) Snake River Conservation Area (SRCA): Moore reported on his conversation with Erin Darrow of Right Angle Engineering about adjustments in plans for a nature trail on the SRCA resulting from considerations by the Commission after their visitation of the property on May 9, 2015. Because the Commissioners decided not to extend the trail to the vernal pool, Darrow suggested that several adjustments could be made so the path from the parking area would need less fill and reduce construction costs. Possible access from Winona Road was also discussed as an option for allowing additional public access to the property. Darrow agreed to craft drawings for a new path from the Waukevan Rd access, look at possibilities of access from the Winona Rd and report back to the Commission. She also sent an invoice, #814 for \$1760.00 to cover the work she has complete from November 2014 through August 7, 2015, for payment.

Pollock moved and Schlesinger seconded payment of the invoice from the Conservation Commission Fund and the motion passed unanimously.

- 4) Property reviews: Jenness Spring property (Tax Map Location: R-2-A2 Acres: 6.3) is the only one of Town properties that are managed by the New Hampton Conservation Commission (NHCC) that has not yet been visited this year. There are also two properties, Riverwood (Tax Map Location: U-17-17 Acres: 7.85) and Dixon Hill (Tax Map Location: R-19-3 Acres: 51), that the NHCC is responsible for monitoring the conservation easements, that have not been visited. Following discussion on dates and times of commissioner availability for visiting, it was decided that Moore would send list of possible of Saturdays and Sundays in September and October to do these visitations.
- 5) Material on easement monitoring: Moore reported that he has several books on order dealing with design, monitoring and enforcing conservation easements he will make available when they received and will send a PowerPoint created by the NH Cooperative Extension to commissioners to prepare for our visitations of Riverwood and Dixon Hill.

- 6) Planning for workshops: Moore reported that New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions (NHACC) annual meeting is scheduled for Saturday November 7, 2015. Following discussion of the past meetings, it was decided that as soon as the listing of workshops is made available, commissioners should review the material and coordinate attending workshops that would enhance the NHCC by addressing a wide range of interests and provide skill development for individual commissioners.
- 7) New Business: none
- 8) Old Business:
 - a. Pollock reported back on his inquiries concerning the permitting a screen house structure at Jackson Pond. He found that the building permit had been issued for a seasonal structure on piers 75 feet back from the shoreline. Because the permit did not deal with wetlands the NHCC was not informed.
 - b. Question about how to hire a qualified person to prepare a forest management plan, timber inventory, boundary marking & blazing, and recreational recommendations was discussed. Schlesinger suggested that we follow the protocol use by the Town and design, publish, and formally review requests for proposals (RFP). Pollock offered that, because the Conservation Commission Fund is not a Town budget allocation, we have more latitude and can merely ask several qualified persons to talk to us about what services they would provide and at what costs. Therefore, shortening the time required for us to make decision and reducing the costs associated with an RFP process. Moore agreed to talk with Barbara Lucas, Town Administrator, and seek her insight on the RFP versus a more informal approach.
 - c. Leroux mentioned the possibility of seeking funding from the Moose Plate Fund for a project here in New Hampton. Moore and Pollock would check the requirements and report back in order to make a possible grant application prior to the September 28th deadline.

The commission voted to adjourn at 8:10pm

Submitted by

Daniel P. Moore
Acting Scribe