

TOWN OF NEW HAMPTON
Conservation Commission
MEETING MINUTES
6 Pinnacle Hill Road, NEW HAMPTON, NH 03256

January 9, 2024

1: Call to order:

Mr. Pollock called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Others Present:

None

2. Roll Call:

Regular Members: Mr. Bob Pollock, Mr. Maurice Schofield, Mr. Tim Young, Mr. Lewis Mundy Shaw
Absent: Mrs. Debra Pendergast

3. Minutes

-Review of 12/11/23 minutes

Minutes of 12/11/23 were reviewed. Mr. Schofield made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Mr. Young seconded the motion. Vote to approve was unanimous.

4. Correspondence

- Huckins Farm Easement – Mr. Pollock presented the Huckins Farm Easement and noted that the Lakes Region Conservation Trust gave the easement. This parcel needs to be added to the Open Space Plan. If parcels around the Huckins Farm come available the CC should look to add to it.
- Mr. Pollock received a response to the letter which he had written about mitigation efforts related to bridge work on Route 104. A copy of the letter of response dated 10/4/2023 was provided.

5. BALD LEDGE EASEMENT

5.) Discussion of the Easement document took place. Mr. Pollock stated if the CC agrees with the wording in the Easement, he needs to send it to Town Attorney for review and then on to Lakes Region Conservation Trust for their approval. Mr. Young said the wording satisfies concerns about ADA accessibility and water rights. Mr. Schofield agreed.

Mr. Schofield made a motion to accept the document as written. Mr. Young seconded the motion. Vote to approve was unanimous, however Mr. Mundy Shaw abstained from the vote because as a new member, he has not had a chance to review the documents.

Mr. Pollock shared correspondence between himself and Matthew Morris and presented a bill he has received to pay Rick Van de Poll of Ecosystem Management Consultants for services for writing the Baseline Report.

Mr. Schofield made a motion to pay the bill of \$2,975.00 to Ecosystem Management Consultants for Bald Ledge BDR. Mr. Young seconded the motion and vote to approve was unanimous.

**6. EGAN PROPERTY-
RECOMMENDATION TO
SELECTMEN**

6.) No update.

7. CHASE ROAD PROPERTY – RECOMMENDATION TO SELECTMEN 7.) No update

8. DIXON HILL - RECOMMENDATION TO SELECTMEN 8.) No update

9. STRAITS ROAD PROPERTY; PROPERTY LINE ISSUE 9) Mr. Pollock will start working with the Town Attorney and Colin Brown on the property line issue once he is finished with the Bald Ledge Easement.

10. WINONA HEIGHTS ROAD SELECTMEN REQUEST TO PAY BACK TAXES 10)

11. REVIEW AND WORK ON UPDATING OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN 11) Mr. Pollock provided a draft of a Vision Statement at the last meeting and Mr. Young completed an edit of the draft which was reviewed. Mr. Pollock said that the first statement is very important because it is reflective of a statement in the Master Plan prepared by the Planning board. Also, the issue of balancing and preserving open space for rural character with development lands to secure proper municipal functions is important. He stated that these two statements are vital. He said it is important to be able to point to these when the Planning Board is voting on subdivisions and project plans and ask the question 'Does the project that you're voting on comply?'. Mr. Schofield said the edited draft statement is well prepared. Mr. Young said he had looked at statements from other towns and felt simple was better. It was agreed the Vision Statement should be placed after the Introduction. Mr. Pollock said the Goals and Objectives should also be placed up front.

Discussion occurred about parcels that need to be added to Inventory throughout the plan and on the chart. It was noted that the Bedrosian property needs to be identified as Dolloff Brook.

Mr. Young suggested next meeting that the CC look at all of the management plans that we have.

12. GRANTS AND CC FUNDING FOR 2023/2024 12) Mrs. Pendergast not present - held

13. DISCUSSION ON PROPOSED GROUND WATER ORDINANCE 13) Held

14. OAK TREE FOR PAT SCHLESINGER 14) Will be planted in Spring

15. NEW MEMBERSHIP – SUGGESTIONS? 15) None

16. OTHER BUSINESS

16.)

- Mr. Pollock presented a bill which needs to be paid. In order for it to be paid in 2023, the invoice needs to be submitted to the Finance Office by tomorrow.

Mr. Young made a motion for the payment to New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions for \$250.00. Mr. Schofield seconded. Vote to approve was unanimous.

- Mr. Pollock stated that at the budget hearing last night, it was proposed reduce the CC budget because budgeted funds weren't spent last year. Mr. Young asked how much the budget was reduced by. Mr. Pollock didn't have the exact figure but said he will email the information to the members.

Last quarterly report the CC had \$99,814.31. Now, there is \$100,366.95. The increase is because we received 50% of LUCT amounts.

- Mr. Young stated that he looked into Robinson Falls. There was discussion about which property the falls are on. Mr. Pollock asked if the CC should see if funds can be secured for Robinson Falls. Mr. Young and Mr. Schofield agreed. The CC will have to inform the Selectmen and eventually a Town Warrant would be necessary to approve any funding that is obtained. It is too late for a 2024 Warrant.
- Mr. Schofield asked if a decision needed to be made on the 1.3 acre piece of property and Mr. Pollock said there was not a response from the Selectmen yet.
- There was further discussion about the location of the George Duncan State Forest.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Young made a motion, seconded by Mr. Schofield to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 PM. Vote was unanimous.

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED:

There was discussion about the best day to hold future meetings. Mr. Schofield has a schedule conflict on Monday nights. Mr. Pollock suggested changing to the first Wednesday of the month. He will check with Mrs. Pendergast to confirm her availability.

*Respectfully submitted,
Tamara Van Lenten*