

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

October 9, 2023

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

Others Present: Mr. Barry Draper

2. Roll Call: Regular Members: Mr. Bob Pollock, Mr. Maurice Schofield, Mr. Tim Young
Absent: Mrs. Deborah Pendergast

3. Minutes
-Review of 9/11/23 minutes

Mr. Tim Young made a motion to accept the 9/11/2023 meeting minutes as written, seconded by Mr. Maurice Schofield. Vote to accept was unanimous.

Correspondence

4. BALD LEDGE EASEMENT
UPDATE

4.) Mr. Pollock stated that he had not received any updated draft easements from Lakes Region Conservation Trust at this time.

5. KELLY DRAKE FIELD
MOWING AND CEMETERY

5.) Mr. Schofield reported that the fields had been mowed and recommended that this be done annually versus every other year. The mowing included access to the cemetery. Mr. Pollock stated that Mr. Drake had called and was pleased with the mowing to the cemetery.

The commission agreed to pay the contractor up to \$350.00 for the mowing which had been voted on at the last meeting. Mr. Schofield recommended that the Cellar hole be brush hogged and also mowed in the future. We should contact Mr. Shaun Lagueux for an update on Forest Management on the property.

Mr. Schofield also commented that he saw no rubbish. Mr. Young asked if there were 'no dumping' signs available to put up at conservation areas.

6. EGAN PROPERTY-
RECOMMENDATION TO
SELECTMEN

6.) Mr. Pollock stated everything is at a standstill at this time.

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; NEED TO CONTACT

9.) Mr. Pollock contacted Ms. Shana Martinez about the Straits Road conservation property. She dropped of a storage box of information, that the Conservation commission reviewed. Mr. Pollock pointed out that the

**COLIN BROWN AND TOWN
COUNSEL-REVIEW OF
SURVEY PLANS**

original property line east of Dolloff Brook showed a straight line confirmed by Mr. Colin Brown yet the tax maps show the property line following the thread of Dolloff Brook. This discrepancy needs to be legally straightened out. Mr. Pollock stated that at this time he cannot meet with the town attorney and Mr. Colin Brown until late December or January

**10. GRANTS AD CC FUNDING
FOR 2023/2024**

10) Mrs. Pendergast not in attendance, so no update at this time.

**11. DISCUSSION ON
PROPOSED GROUND WATER
ORDINANCE**

11) On hold

**12. OAK TREE FOR PAT
SCHLESINGER.**

12) Mr. Tim Young presented an estimate of \$275.00 for a White Oak to replace the one that was previously planted.

Motion by Mr. Schofield to appropriate \$275.00 for the tree. Seconded by Mr. Pollock. Vote to approve was unanimous.

**13. NEW MEMBERSHIP –
SUGGESTIONS?**

Mr. Draper stated he cannot join the Commission at this time, but will consider it in the future.

1. OTHER BUSINESS

- Mr. Pollock presented the following item to the members of the Commission:

The Selectmen would like your recommendation on the sale of town property on Winona Heights Drive; R8-1U. The larger lot next to it used to be made up of several lots, then the Conservation Commission had it surveyed, put a conservation easement on it, keeping this particular lot separate. The Selectmen would like to consider the sale of this lot to recoup the lost taxes. They need input from both the Conservation Commission and the Planning Board. Please make a recommendation to the Selectmen, at each of your upcoming meetings.

RSA 80:80 and RSA 41:14a

Under New Hampshire RSA 80:80 and RSA 41:14a, the selectmen should seek the recommendation from the Planning Board and other boards and commissions to determine if there is a future use of a parcel of publicly owned land before they place the parcel on the market for sale.

The Planning Board Responsibility:

The Planning Board reviews the Master plan to determine if the property is of value for municipal purposes i.e. Future Cemetery expansion, affordable housing lot, future conservation area, future road extension or turn around on a dead-end road, wetland protection, aquifer protection or other items

listed in the Master Plan priority list. Once the Planning Board has reviewed its Master Plan it then makes a recommendation back to the Selectmen.

Conservation Commission Responsibility:

The Conservation Commission reviews the Open Space Plan, that is referenced in the Planning Board Master Plan, to determine if the property is of value for conservation purposed. Does it abut other conservation land, is it near a wetland that needs to be protected, is it near an aquifer that should be protected, is it near a stream that should be protected. Once the Conservation Commission reviews its Open Space Plan and makes a determination that the property does or does not meet criteria outlined in the Open Space Plan, the commission then makes a recommendation to the Planning Board and to the Selectmen.

Mr. Schofield recalled that there was a discussion about this parcel by the Commission in the past and felt the recommendation had been to include this parcel with the other conservation land. Mr. Young and Mr. Schofield stated that they would look at the property on October 14th and prepare a summary of their trip for the Planning Board and Selectmen to review.

- Mr. Draper is a member of the Pemigewasset River Local Advisory Committee. They are concerned that an abutter to the Pemi off of Old Bristol Road has cut trees and created a beach without permits and wanted to know if the Conservation Commission can do anything about it. Mr. Pollock stated that the Commission only has an advisory role and not a regulatory role. The Commission can send out a complaint form to DES explaining what the issue is. Also, we can look at the New Hampton Zoning Ordinance and highlight the Pemi buffer regulations.
- A brief discussion occurred about dumping on the Snake River property.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Schofield made a motion, seconded by Mr. Young to adjourn meeting at 8:00 PM. Vote was unanimous.

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED:

Next regularly scheduled meeting is November 13, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tamara Van Lenten