

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

December 11, 2023

1: Call to order:

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

Others Present:

Mr. Lewis Mundy Shaw

2. Roll Call:

Regular Members: Mr. Bob Pollock, Mr. Maurice Schofield, Mr. Tim Young

Absent: Mrs. Debra Pendergast

3. Minutes

-Review of 11/13/23 minutes

Minutes of 11/13/23 were deferred until Mrs. Pendergast is in attendance.

4. Correspondence

- Huckins Farm Easement – Mr. Pollock explained that because the easement is now in place, the land is guaranteed to remain open space land in some form of agricultural use. Mr. Schofield asked what the qualifications and process for obtaining farm easement are. Mr. Pollock said that appraisals must be obtained of the value of the land fully developed and the value of the agricultural use of the land. The value of the difference between the two is purchased by supporting organizations. Mr. Young asked how much the CC contributed towards this easement. Mr. Pollock said it was \$500.00.

- Eversource Environmental Report – Mr. Pollock provided for review.

5. BALD LEDGE EASEMENT

5.) No update.

6. ARM EASEMENT MONITORING

6.) Mr. Pollock provided an ARM report for the Baird property (Snake River property). The Meredith Conservation Commission has an easement on this property and completed the monitoring. Mr. Schofield asked why the Meredith CC did the monitoring on our property. Mr. Pollock does not know. Mr. Schofield noted that the review of the markings was 'fair to good'. He thought that the property had been very well marked. Mr. Pollock suggested perhaps sending a letter point out this discrepancy.

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

7.) No update.

**8. CHASE ROAD PROPERTY –
RECOMMENDATION TO
SELECTMEN**

8.) No update

**9. DIXON HILL -
RECOMMENDATION TO
SELECTMEN**

9.) No update

**10. STRAITS ROAD
PROPERTY; PROPERTY LINE
ISSUE; REVIEW OF COLIN
BROWN SURVEY OF
DOLLOFF BROOK PROPERTY**

10) Mr. Pollock said Colin Brown brought a set of plans to show the property line as it is supposed to be. Mr. Pollock will be attempting to reach Mr. Brown and the Town Attorney for next steps.

**11. WINONA HEIGHTS ROAD
SELECTMEN REQUEST TO
PAY BACK TAXES**

11) Mr. Pollock read a memo from Mrs. Pam Vose, Land Use Administrator containing information on the original subdivision which included lot R08-001-U. The total area of that parcel is 56,545 sq ft (1.3 acres). Excluding the wet area, it is 49,943 sq ft (1.15 acres). The amount of back taxes on this lot as provided by Ms. Regina Schofield, Tax Collector, is \$10,998.46.

The Selectmen want to know if the CC would be agreeable to pay the back taxes in order to merge this parcel with the large tract behind it. Mr. Schofield stated he believed the lot was supposed to have been merged previously and that this had been voted on by the Town. Mr. Young stated the cost was not a lot to pay for 1.3 acres but asked why the CC would have to pay back taxes if this lot should have been merged. There was discussion about the lot being included in the proposal but not in the merger. The lot will have to be surveyed in order to do a lot line merger.

Mr. Schofield and Mr. Young recommended offering \$5,000.00 since there will be additional expenses to have the lot re-surveyed. Mr. Pollock will draft a letter for the CC to approve before submitting it to the Selectmen.

**12. REVIEW AND WORK ON
UPDATING OPEN SPACE
MASTER PLAN**

12) Mr. Pollock suggested creating a Vision Statement that indicates the CC would look to acquire properties that abut existing open space property rather than small individual pieces. He provided a draft for members to review and edit and asked that suggestions be brought to the meeting next month. Management plans for the properties in the Open Space Plan will need to be updated. There was discussion about volunteers that may help with management or reinstating the Recreation Commission.

Mr. Young asked if the CC could get the CAD file of the map; Mr. Pollock will try to do so.

**13. GRANTS AND CC
FUNDING FOR 2023/2024**

13) Mrs. Pendergast not present - held

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

14) Held

**15. OAK TREE FOR PAT
SCHLESINGER**

15) Will be planted in Spring

**16. NEW MEMBERSHIP –
SUGGESTIONS?**

16) Mr. Lewis Mundy Shaw was present and Mr. Pollock said that he hopes Mr. Mundy will come on board as a member of the Conservation Commission.

17. OTHER BUSINESS

17.)

- Fish and Game – Mr. Young and Mr. Pollock attended the Selectmen’s meeting on 12/7/23. Fish & Game representative was present and discussed plans for increasing production at the New Hampton Hatchery. Phosphorus levels at two other hatcheries are above EPA standards and their goal is to keep the phosphorus levels at the New Hampton hatchery the same while increasing production initially to 150k lbs and finally to 250k lbs. A state-of-the-art filtration/recirculation system will be installed. They plan to finish the design in 2024 and the project should be completed in 2026.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED:

Next regularly scheduled meeting is January 8, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Tamara Van Lenten*

DRAFT