

**TOWN OF NEW HAMPTON**  
**Conservation Commission**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

Town Office 2<sup>nd</sup> floor small meeting room, 6 Pinnacle Hill Road, NEW HAMPTON, NH 03256

May 1, 2024

**1: CALL TO ORDER:**

1) Mr. Pollock called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL:**

2) Regular Members: Mr. Bob Pollock, Mr. Maurice Schofield, Mr. Tim Young, Mr. Lewis Mundy Shaw

Alternate Members: Mr. Ted Capron, Mr. Harold Lamos, Ms. Ashley Bureau

Absent: Mrs. Debra Pendergast. The chair asked Harold Lamos to be seated for Debra Pendergast

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

None

**3. CORRESPONDENCE**

3) Mr. Pollock provided Correspondence:

**a. Letter from Town Administrator relative to sale of three tax dedeed properties:**

Mr. Pollock explained that RSA 41:14-a states that the Selectmen shall submit proposed sale of tax dedeed land to the Planning Board and Conservation Commission for their recommendations before sale. Mr. Pollock shared his draft letter of response and recommendation and asked for input.

Property on Winona Heights Rd R8-1-U was discussed – it was felt this should be retained. Details of discussion are noted in item # 14 of these minutes.

***Mr. Schofield moved to recommend to the Planning Board and the Selectmen that lot R8-1-U Winona Heights Drive meets master plan goals and should not be sold. Mr. Lamos seconded. Vote was unanimous.***

45-acre property on Lang Drive R5-013 was discussed. Mr. Capron stated a nearby property has a lot of ledge and that a couple of potential buyers have looked at it recently and turned it down because of too much ledge.

***Mr. Schofield made a motion to recommend to the Planning Board and the Selectmen that lot R5-13 Lang Drive did not meet master plan goals and should be sold. Mr. Lamos seconded. Vote was unanimous.***

0.13 acre parcel on West Shore Rd U14-43 was discussed. Mr. Lamos asked if B&M Railroad had been approached about this

Parcel.

*Mr. Young made a motion to recommend to the Planning Board and the Selectmen that lot U14-43 West Shore Road did not meet master plan goals and should be sold. Mr. Lamos seconded. Vote was unanimous.*

*A motion was made by Mr. Lamos to send the letter that Mr. Pollock drafted to the Selectmen as written. Seconded by Mr. Schofield. Vote was unanimous.*

**b. Letter from NHDES re: dredge and fill of water access off of Old Bristol Road.** The NHDES response requires that plans for water access structure be amended to remove both sand placed within the water course and the proposed steps

**c. Flyer from Lakes Region Conservation Trust** – quarterly financial report

**4. WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

4) Mr. Pollock welcomed the new members. Mr. Capron, Mr. Lamos and Ms. Bureau shared information about their backgrounds.

**5. ROLE OF CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

5) Conservation Commission by-laws were provided to new members. Mr. Pollock explained that the role of the CC in NH is advisory, not legislative. The CC can send comments to DES pertinent to Wetlands Permits and Shoreland permits. Ms. Bureau asked if the Town receives these from DES and Mr. Pollock explained that they are sent to the Town Clerk’s office. He would like to have applicants meet with the CC.

Mr. Pollock stated that CC members should not communicate about CC business outside of the publicly noticed meetings including email communication.

**6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AT JUNE MEETING**

6.) Officers need to be elected in June. Mr. Pollock listed the regular members and the alternates. He stated that he would be willing to serve in his current position for no more than one more year.

**7. MINUTES -REVIEW OF 3/6/24 MINUTES**

**7.) Minutes of 3/6/24 were reviewed. Mr. Schofield made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Mr. Lamos seconded. Vote to approve was unanimous.**

**8. REPORT OF PERCHED BEACH ON THE PEMI RIVER DES SHORE LAND APPLICATION - DES RESPONSE**

8) This item was discussed previously (Correspondence)

**9. BALD LEDGE EASEMENT UPDATE**

9.) Mr. Pollock said he had followed up with the Lakes Region Conservation Trust. They questioned whether there was a mylar and a

written description. Mr. Pollock verified with Mrs. Pam Vose that there is not a mylar. He told the LRCT that they could complete a written description and contact Mr. Colin Brown to have a mylar completed. He explained that once a mylar was completed, signed by the Selectmen and recorded the Town would have an easement. Mr. Schofield inquired whether the water rights were included in the easement. Mr. Pollock confirmed that was included on p. 13.

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

10.) No update

**11. CHASE ROAD PROPERTY  
- RECOMMENDATION TO  
SELECTMEN**

11.) Mr. Pollock showed the Commission pictures of siltation coming from a logged parcel of property on the other side of Straits Road that is affecting Class VI Chase Road. The siltation has not made it to Dolloff Brook yet. Mr. Pollock explained that the CC could write a complaint letter to DES or could recommend that the Selectmen reach out to encourage the property owner to put in erosion control measures. Mr. Lamos asked if the logging operation was required by law to do this. Mr. Pollock said that he would think so but that this has not been done. Ms. Bureau commented that this could undermine Straits Road and Mr. Pollock stated that there have already been some problems and there have been several complaints.

*Mr. Schofield moved that the Commission ask the Selectmen to write a letter to the property owner to install erosion control measures in order to eliminate the siltation on abutting properties. Mr. Lamos seconded the motion. Vote was unanimously in favor.*

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

12.) Mr. Pollock stated the Selectmen need to be made aware that there are Conservation easements on Dixon Hill Road.

**13. STRAITS ROAD  
PROPERTY; PROPERTY LINE  
ISSUE**

13.) No update

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

14.) Mr. Lamos asked if this property could be retained for parking for the adjacent town owned property. Mr. Schofield related the history of the property. Mr. Lamos asked where the property is in relation to the Bald Ledge Easement and it was explained that the parcel with the easement abuts both Beech Hill and Winona Heights Rd. Mr. Schofield noted that this property does have wetlands. There was additional discussion about potential for parking areas. The CC has offered \$5,000.00 towards back taxes.

**15. SET A DATE TO WORK ON  
UPDATING OPEN SPACE  
MASTER PLAN**

15.) Mr. Young stated he has made suggested edits and wants to work on map data. Mr. Pollock asked Mr. Young to take the lead on updating the Open Space Master Plan and it was agreed.

**16. PREPARE A NHDES  
COMPLAINT FORM FOR  
CROSSING OF MAGOON**

16.) Mr. Pollock shared the plan which had been approved by the planning board. There is now a driveway in a location which was not on the approved plan. It was noted that a driveway permit was given

**BROOK AND FILLING  
WETLANDS OFF DRAKE  
ROAD; TX MAP R4, LOTS 79 &  
79A**

for the location where the driveway is now, but this location was not on the approved plan. The driveway is now going over Magoon Brook with a bridge being built. Mr. Capron asked if the driveway had been on the plan in its location now would it have been approved? Mr. Pollock stated it most likely would have been approved with conditions for wetlands approval.

Mr. Pollock said the available action is to write to DES.

***Mr. Lamos made a motion to send a complaint form to DES in relation to this project. Mr. Young seconded and vote was unanimous.***

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

17.) No update as Mrs. Pendergast is not in attendance.

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

18.) On hold

**19. OAK TREE FOR PAT  
SCHLESINGER**

19.) Mr. Young asked if Mr. Pollock had spoken to Pam Vose about the tree and he said that Finance Officer Wendy Duggan just needs to know when to pay the bill.

**20. NEW MEMBERSHIP –  
SUGGESTIONS?**

20.) New members have been instated.

**21. OTHER BUSINESS**

21.)

a) Snake River – Mr. Pollock related the history of the Snake River property. One of the conditions during the purchase was that there was supposed to be a trail on the property. In the past DES had put conditions on approved construction of a parking lot which proved cost prohibitive. Mr. Lamos asked if DOT should be involved. Mr. Pollock said that had been tried in the past and it was decided not to pursue. No new action being taken at this time. There are currently No Dumping Signs and Conservation stickers on the property but there has been trash dumped there. Jeromy Sidelinger and Jennifer Dutton recently picked up the trash. Mr. Pollock would like to write letters of thanks. Mr. Schofield volunteered to prepare thank you letters to Mr. Sidelinger and Ms. Dutton.

Mr. Pollock also shared information from a 2021 report that shows that Chloride levels in Snake River have increased.

b) Mr. Pollock said that he recently attended a meeting of local Conservation Commissions in regards to stream restoration workshops. He provided materials from the meeting to CC members.

c) Mr. Pollock read a letter that he had located in the files about the Robinson Falls property. This letter dated 2/13/2006 was from Whitney Beals, director of land protection at New England Forestry Foundation and

discussed a meeting that was held with the property owner about conserving some of the property. Mr. Young noted that the landowner may have changed since that date.

d) Easement monitoring – Ashley Bureau volunteered to prepare the monitoring forms for properties that need to be monitored. Mr. Capron asked if this involved walking the properties and Mr. Schofield said it does – it involves checking the borders and being sure nothing has changed since last monitoring. Mr. Young suggested going over a couple of these properties at each meeting, looking at the maps and then scheduling someone to do the monitoring. Mr. Pollock agreed.

e) Cleanup and trail maintenance of the Kelly Drake property - Mr. Pollock has not heard further from the group that attended the last meeting and said they were willing to help with this. The location of the property was discussed.

There was further discussion about the need for volunteers to maintain the conservation properties. Mr. Capron mentioned the White Mountain Trail Adopter program and Ms. Bureau noted the Boy Scouts are always looking for conservation hours.

f) Dolloff Brook Property (Straits Road) –a sign needs to be created and installed to identify the property as Dolloff Brook Conservation Area. The property is currently not identified as public property. Mr. Pollock said he spoke to Mrs. Shana Martinez and she gave him the number for the prison sign shop who has done the signs in the past.

g) Mr. Pollock asked if there was a volunteer to manage the Facebook Account for the exercise trail (not a Conservation Commission project). There were none at this time.

h) Mr. Lamos shared that he is on the Old Home Day Committee and they will have speakers this year to spotlight certain parts of the Town. He is looking for a map that can be used at Old Home Day and offered create a hard copy at no charge.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Mr. Schofield made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. Mr. Pollock adjourned the meeting.**

**NEXT MEETING  
SCHEDULED:**

Wednesday, June 5, 2024

*Respectfully submitted,  
Tamara Van Lenten*