

**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

June 5, 2024

**1: CALL TO ORDER:**

1) Mr. Pollock called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL:**

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

Alternate Members: Mr. Ted Capron, Mrs. Ashley Bureau

Absent: Mrs. Debra Pendergast, Mr. Tim Young and Mr. Harold Lamos.  
The chair asked Ms. Bureau to vote for Mr. Young and asked Mr. Capron to vote for Mrs. Pendergast.

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

None

**3. CORRESPONDENCE**

3) None

**4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

The Chair asked that Ted Capron chair the voting for Chairman.

4) *Ted Capron nominated Robert Pollock for Chair. Seconded by Maurice Schofield. Vote passed unanimously. Mr. Pollock reminded that he is willing to serve as Chair for one more year with need for someone else to take over next June.*

Mr. Pollock took over the election of officers.

*Maurice Schofield nominated Timothy Young for Vice Chair. Lewis Mundy Shaw seconded. Vote passed unanimously.*

*Lewis Mundy Shaw nominated Deborah Pendergast for Secretary. Ted Capron seconded. Vote passed unanimously.*

**5. MINUTES – REVIEW OF 5/1/2024 MINUTES**

5) Minutes of 5/1/2024 were reviewed. Mr. Capron would like to amend item 3) a on p. 1 to strike the words ‘the area’ and replace with ‘a nearby property’.

Ms. Bureau noted a typo on p. 4 to be corrected from ‘begin’ to ‘being’.

*Mr. Schofield moved to accept the minutes as corrected. Mr. Capron seconded. Vote passed unanimously.*

**6. VOLUNTEER TO MANAGE FACEBOOK ACCOUNT FOR EXERCISE TRAIL**

6.) There was brief discussion about the request to have someone maintain the Facebook Account, but there were no volunteers. There was some discussion about the trail. It is not a Conservation Commission project. It

is under the jurisdiction of the Selectmen. When the trail was built, the issue of who was to maintain it was never part of the planning process.

**7. EASEMENT MONITORING**

7.) Mr. Pollock presented the files for easement monitoring. No assignments were made, but it was stated that the monitoring is done to assure that nothing substantial has changed on the properties which the CC has easements on. Ashley Bureau provided Easement forms which can be used when someone does a review of a parcel of land.

**8. BOY SCOUTS TRAIL MAINTENANCE**

8) There was discussion about which trails might be maintained if Boy Scouts were able to do trail maintenance. The Kelley-Drake property and the Fitness Trail were suggested. It was noted that work on the Fitness Trail should be coordinated through the Town Office.

**9. SIGN FOR DOLLOFF BROOK PROPERTY**

9.) Mr. Pollock inquired if a Scout working on an Eagle Project might be willing to prepare a sign or small kiosk for the Dolloff Brook property.

**10. BALD LEDGE EASEMENT UPDATE, IF ANY**

10.) Mr. Pollock reported that an issue has come up that may hold up the easement. The 2021 Town Warrant stated “Shall the Town vote, pursuant to RSA 80:80 (V) to retain the 134-acre +/- parcel of land identified as Map R08 Lot 001 on Mountain Vista Drive for public uses, and further to authorize the conveyance of a conservation easement to be held by Lakes Region Conservation Trust for this parcel of Town Owned Land?” Reference to RSA 80:80 (V) 80:80 (IV), states the Warrant should have had the words “indefinitely, until rescinded” in the warrant. The Lakes Region Conservation Trust is questioning whether or not the article is still valid in that without those words, the warrant article is only good for one year. Bob has asked their attorney to talk with the Town Attorney. In order to do that, the Commission needs to vote to appropriate funds to pay the legal fees. There was some further discussion about the role of the Easement in serving to keep the property in perpetuity.

Mrs. Bureau asked if additional expenses like recording the mylar were taken care of and Mr. Pollock said that the LRCT will take care of that.

*Mr. Schofield moved that the Commission appropriate up to \$2,000.00 to pay the attorney fees and request that the Selectmen ask the Town Attorney to discuss this issue with the Attorney from the Lakes Region Conservation Trust. Mrs. Bureau seconded the motion. Vote was unanimously in favor.*

**11. EGAN PROPERTY RECOMMENDATION TO SELECTMEN**

11.) No update

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

12.) No update

**13. DIXON HILL PROPERTY – RECOMMENDATION TO SELECTMEN**

13.) No update

**14. STRAITS ROAD  
PROPERTY – PROPERTY  
LINE ISSUE**

14.) Next steps will be to have Colin Brown, the Town Attorney and Mr. Pollock meet. There was some additional discussion about the property.

**15. WINONA HEIGHTS ROAD;  
SELECTMEN REQUEST TO  
PAY BACK TAXES**

15.) Mr. Pollock explained that the letter recommending to keep this property was sent to the Selectmen and to the Planning Board. At a Special Meeting of the Planning Board on June 4, 2024, there was a letter to be signed by the Planning Board to recommend selling the properties. It was determined that this item was not on the agenda and needed to be taken up at the next meeting on June 18, 2024. Mr. Pollock pointed out to the Planning Board Chair that there was a recommendation from the Conservation Commission that was not considered by the Planning Board nor had the Planning Board looked at each of these properties in relation to the Master Plan.

Mr. Pollock read excerpts from the Master Plan goals and recommendations which indicate that the Planning Board and Conservation Commission should work jointly to preserve and protect valuable resources.

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

16.) Mr. Tim Young has taken this on and is working on it. Mr. Capron asked that if, as each section is finished, the conservation Commission could discuss and review the sections. Mr. Pollock felt that this was a reasonable request.

Mrs. Bureau shared Wetland Resources and Wetland Wildlife Habitat overlays that she had printed from the LRPC website. Mr. Pollock stated that these should be part of the Open Space Master Plan and Mrs. Bureau said she will share with Mr. Young.

There was brief discussion about the process of updating the Master Plan and the Zoning Ordinance.

Referencing the agenda, Mr. Capron asked for clarification whether an actual work date needs to be set. Mr. Pollock said it does not as Tim Young is now working on it.

**17. NH DES COMPLAINT  
FORM FOR CROSSING OF  
MAGOON BROOK AND  
FILLING WETLANDS OFF  
DRAKE ROAD  
TAX MAP R4 LOTS 79 & 79(A)  
– (FILED)**

17.) Mr. Pollock handed out a letter of response from Jen Drociak of DES dated May 24, 2024 stating that there is no violation of RSA 482-A Fill and Dredge in Wetlands.

**18. GRANTS AND CC  
FUNDING FOR 2023/2024  
DEBORAH PENDERGAST  
UPDATE**

18.) No update as Mrs. Pendergast is absent.

Mr. Pollock states grant funds will be needed if the CC wants to be able to purchase Robinson Falls for public access. There was brief discussion about the location of Robinson Falls and possible methods to potentially purchase the property at a reduced price.

Mrs. Bureau pointed out a wetlands grant that may apply to the Robinson Falls Property.

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

19) This is in the hands of the Planning Board at this time. Mr. Pollock stated that he is aware that one of the largest ground water areas in Town is in the area of the intersection of NH 104 and NH 132N. This should be considered when updating the Planning Board Master Plan. Mr. Pollock further discussed that the Planning Board Master Plan states very clearly that the Planning Board should be working with the Conservation Commission in its development of the Land use section.

**20. OAK TREE FOR PAT SCHLESINGER**

20.) Mr. Young is taking care of this.

**21. NEW MEMBERSHIP SUGGESTIONS**

21.) Mr. Pollock said that a resident of Old Bristol Road may want to become a member. Mr. Capron asked about the vetting process for joining the board.

**22. OTHER BUSINESS**

22.)

a) Mr. Schofield relayed a message from Mr. Harold Lamos. The Belknap County Conservation Commission has asked him if they could have a booth at Old Home Day on August 10, 2024 and if the Conservation Commission be interested in participating. Mr. Capron stated that he may be available.

b) Mr. Lewis Mundy Shaw handed out the final version of the PRLAC Pemi River Report prepared by the Pemi River Association.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Mr. Schofield made a motion to adjourn which Mr. Mundy Shaw seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m..**

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED:**

Wednesday, July 3, 2024

*Respectfully submitted,  
Tamara Van Lenten*