

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

September 11, 2023

Members Present:

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

Others Present:

Mr. Don Berry – Lakes Region Conservation Commission

1. Call to order:

Mr. Pollock called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

2. Minutes

-Review of 8/14/23 minutes

Mrs. Pendergast made a motion to accept the 8/14/2023 meeting minutes as written, seconded by Mr. Schofield – the vote was unanimous.

Correspondence

- Minutes from the Pemigewasset River Local Advisory Committee were received. The New Hampton representative is Lewis Mundy Shaw.
- Mr. Pollock shared a letter of response he wrote to Mr. Ryan, Environmental Manager for DOT regarding bridge work and concerns about the Fish Hatchery. Regarding CC mitigation efforts, the culvert at Winona Road and Snake River would be priority.
- Mr. Pollock provided monitoring reports which had previously been requested in regards to power line improvements.

Recording paused at 7:15 p.m. while CC members reviewed correspondence.

3. BALD LEDGE EASEMENT
GUEST DON BERRY OF LAKES
REGION CONSERVATION TRUST

3.) LRCT has been working with the CC on an easement relative to Bald Ledge. Mr. Berry said the last draft he has is dated 6/9/2022. Mr. Pollock said we cannot prohibit motorized vehicles on the property for ADA purposes. Mr. Berry thought additional wording should be added to address exceptions to the prohibition of motor vehicles and that wording in the easement should reference the Federal Regulations. Mr. Berry said specific activities could be clarified within the easement to be allowed (such as horseback riding) or prohibited (such as dirt bike/ATV use). If specific items are not contained in the easement, they can be addressed in the rules of the property management defined by the town to be posted at the trail.

Mr. Berry will provide a new draft to be distributed to the CC members for review. Mr. Pollock stated a vote could then be taken at the next meeting to send to the Town Attorney for review. Mr. Berry said that a Baseline Documentation Report is required to describe the property at the time that the easement takes effect. Mr. Schofield reminded that language regarding retaining water rights also needs to be added to the easement.

**4. KELLY DRAKE FIELD
MOWING AND CEMETERY**

4.) Mr. Schofield reported that Mr. Dean Huckins will try to mow the cellar hole area this week and Mr. Garrett Gilpatrick will mow the field within the next couple of weeks. Cost was discussed. Mr. Gilpatrick will continue to charge \$600.00. Mr. Huckins will need to increase due to the increased cost of fuel.

Mr. Pollock presented a map with the location of the Drake Cemetery. He also made the Management Plan for Kelly Drake available for any CC members that wish to review.

It was noted that the gate to the property is currently open and will remain open at this time as hunting season is beginning.

A motion was made by Mr. Schofield to approve the charge of \$600.00 for brush hogging of the field and access to the cemetery to be performed by Mr. Garrett Gilpatrick. Seconded by Mrs. Pendergast. Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Mr. Schofield to approve the charge of not more than \$350.00 for mowing of the cellar hole and apple tree areas to be performed by Mr. Dean Huckins. Seconded by Mrs. Pendergast. Vote was unanimous.

**5. EGAN PROPERTY; CHASE
ROAD PROPERTY; DIXON
HILL PROPERTY -
RECOMMENDATION TO
SELECTMEN**

5.) Mr. Pollock had sent CC members a copy of what he sent to the Selectmen. He has had no response yet. Mr. Pollock suggested keeping abreast of the Selectmen's minutes in regards to the tax deeded properties. Paying the back taxes on these properties would deplete the CC bank account. He will find out what the Timber value is on the property as offset to payment of the taxes.

**6. STRAITS ROAD PROPERTY;
PROPERTY LINE ISSUE;
NEED TO CONTACT COLIN
BROWN AND TOWN
COUNSEL**

6.) When the survey of the property was done by Colin Brown, it affected a portion of the property near Dolloff Brook and takes a piece out of one of the abutting properties. The Town Attorney wants to meet with Mr. Pollock and Mr. Brown to review the plan.

The abutting property owner approached Mr. Pollock at the Transfer Station and inquired about status. Mr. Pollock told him that he will be notified after the CC has met with the surveyor and attorney.

Mr. Pollock stated the legitimacy of the previous survey had been questioned. He has been trying to reach Mr. Brown and has left a message on his answering machine.

Mrs. Pendergast inquired about the dates of the deed of the owner that gifted the land (Mrs. Bedrosian) versus the date of the deed of the abutter. Mr. Pollock did not have that information at hand.

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

7.) Mrs. Pendergast stated Mrs. Martinez had given her a list of grants. She has looked into some. Some could be signed and printed but she did not

have the material available at this meeting. Mr. Pollock stated there is also a list of grant applications at the back of the Open Space Master Plan.

8. PROPOSED GROUND WATER ORDINANCE

8.) To remain on agenda.

9. OAK TREE FOR PAT SCHLESINGER.

9.) The best time to plant a new tree was discussed as well as the type of Oak Tree to be planted. Mr. Young will look for a price for a 6 to 8-foot Pin Oak.

10. NEW MEMBERSHIP SUGGESTIONS

10) Mr. Young has stated that Mr. Barry Draper may be interested in joining as a new member.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

- 11)
- Mr. Pollock stated the Open Space Plan needs to be updated to include the Bedrosian property and other items.
 - The Commission had previously voted on amending the bylaws to have 7 Members and 4 Alternates. There was wording keeping Alternate Members for one year. This has raised concerns for the Selectmen. Mr. Pollock met with Mrs. Vose to update wording. Mr. Pollock read the change: 'Alternate Members shall serve a one year term before being appointed as a Regular Member with the exception that if there is a vacancy on the Commission, an Alternate Member may be appointed to fill the vacancy regardless of the time served as Alternate.'

A motion was made by Mrs. Pendergast to approve the new wording to allow the Alternate Members to fill a vacancy previous to their one year. Motion seconded by Mr. Schofield. Vote passed unanimously.

- Mr. Schofield commented that the State had done a really nice job with the sidearm mowing near Snake River.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mrs. Pendergast made a motion, seconded by Mr. Schofield to adjourn meeting at 8:35 PM. Vote was unanimous.

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED:

Next meeting was not scheduled at this time.

*Respectfully submitted,
Tamara Van Lenten*