



CONSERVATION COMMISSION

30 PAYSON HILL ROAD

RINDGE, NH 03461

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Minutes for Meeting on September 26, 2024, 6:30 p.m.

Meeting Convened at 6:30 pm

Members present: David Drouin, Al Lefebvre, Rob Rubendall, Phil Simeone. Richard Mellor

Alternate members present: Deni Dickler, Fred Dodge

OLD BUSINESS

- Mattabesek Workday Update September 10 – Three Commission members (Drouin, Mellor, Rubendall Dodge and Lefebvre) and one Conservation Corps member (Linda Dodge) assisted with this workday. Drouin, Mellor, Rubendall worked to clear the new trail near the powerline while Lefebvre, Linda & Fred Dodge worked on the water bars on the trail from the kiosk. More work is needed on the new trail near the powerline and will be the focus of the next workday on October 12 (at 8:00 – Noon). Jay Pittorino of Rindge Stone & Gravel was helpful in allowing the Commission to cross his property to reach the new trail.
- Merrimac Conservation Partnership 2024 grant application – Dickler had sent the final report to Commission members and asked if any changes were needed. None were forthcoming and the report will be sent.
- Tour of Tetreault/Town Forest Update – Drouin led the tour with local beekeeper Amber Dewey. Drouin reported that ten people attended the tour. He indicated that people were very interested in the bee keeper information. The Commission thought it would be a good presentation for late winter/early spring. Dickler will work on the details in November.
- Fall speaker – Dickler indicated that Dr. Goodby of Franklin Pierce University is scheduled for the presentation about Rindge native settlements on Nov. 11 at the Recreation Center.
- Commission's Conservationist of the Year Award – Lefebvre distributed an updated proposal for the award. After review, the Commission approved the proposal on a motion from Rubendall, seconded by Mellor and asked Lefebvre to lead the implementation of the plan and chair the selection group.
- Camping Permit warrant – Drouin reviewed the Board of Selectmen's proposed warrant article. The Commission is still expected to review and approve future camping requests but will follow the proposed Town guideline if approved by voters in March.
- Signage – Drouin displayed the "No Hunting" sign that he had purchased for use at Converse and the Town Forest. He purchased 50 of the signs at \$130.50. Lefebvre motioned and Dickler seconded to approve the expenditure from the Conservation Fund.
- Monitoring of conservation lands
 - Knotweed Treatment – Mellor reported that selective a herbicide treatment was conducted at Mattabesek and Contoocook on September 25 as previously approved by the Commission. Spraying was done to remove the Japanese knotweed and buckthorn invasive plants. The spraying was performed by Taylor's Invasive Plant Control for \$400 and was approved by the Commission (from the Conservation Fund). The Commission also thought a presentation on the topic might be helpful for the public in the future.
 - Commission members discussed adding directional signs on certain trails at Converse and Tetreault to better assist walker.
 - Commissioners also discussed additional trail clearing needs at Tetreault.

NEW BUSINESS

- New clerk – Drouin discussed the new “Minute taker” (Amanda Nardini) who has been hired and will be in attendance at future meetings.
- BSA Troop 308 Camping Application for Tetreault and Peragallo’s use of Converse were presented by Drouin and were approved.
- Van Dyke Goddard violations – Drouin explained the discussion at the Board of Selectmen’s meeting on these long-standing violation issues. To explain again and try to resolve Van Dyke’s issues, a Commission member will meet with Van Dyke along with the Town’s Code Enforcement Office, Ken Caisse.
- Parking & Driveway at Converse – Drouin met again with Paul Knight to review changes needed to enlarge the parking area at Converse. Knight will handle the ground work and obtain the needed material for the job.
- Women’s Club Annual Fair – Saturday – Sept 28. Lefebvre and Dodge will assist Dickler at the fair.
- NHACC Intern Program was discussed with no action taken.
- CNBRLAC invoice for annual \$250 dues was approved.
- Drouin reported that the boat trailer had been picked up by the purchaser.

OFFICIAL NOTICES

- Wetlands Permit Application, Map 7 Lot 87, Perry Road, Ray-Tek Construction LLC (Raphael Aho). Reviewed by the Commission with no issues.
- Map 7 Lot 96-3 95 Converseville Road, CEO letter to Eric & Samantha Seppala concerning wetlands violation. Reviewed by the Commission.
- Letter from Code Enforcement Officer about possible wetlands encroachment at Map 2 Lot 49-4, 196 Lord Brook Rd, Nahum & Taylor Ketola was reviewed by the Commission

Announcements/Reminders

- October 16, Meeting with Jaffrey Cons Comm
- October 20, Miram Hunt Tour - Rogers
- NHACC Annual Conference, Register by Oct 25- \$60, After October 25 -\$70
- Nov. 11, Dr. Goodby presentation at Recreation Center.
- February 1, POOR Meat Raffle at American Legion Hall, Jaffrey (need at least 8 helpers) - Lefebvre

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: Minutes for September 9, 2024

Rubendall motioned and Mellor seconded to approve the Minutes of September 9, 2024. The Commission approved the motion with Simeone and Dodge abstaining

NEXT MEETING: October 14, 2024

Schedule of 2024 Meetings: Oct. 24, Nov. 11, Dec. 9, 2024.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Lefebvre.