



CONSERVATION COMMISSION

30 PAYSON HILL ROAD

RINDGE, NH 03461

Tel. (603) 899-5181 Fax (603) 899-2101 TDD 1-800-735-2964

Minutes for Meeting October 24, 2024, 6:30 p.m.

Meeting convened at 6:31pm

Members Present: Al Lefebvre, David Drouin, Richard Mellor, Fred Rogers,

Alternate Members Present: Joe Desruisseaux, Philip Simeone, Deni Dickler

Guest: Ken Caisse, Town of Rindge Code Enforcement Officer

OLD BUSINESS

- Wetlands Violations – Ken Caisse, Rindge Code Enforcement Officer updated the Commission and sought clarification on the Wetlands Ordinance.
 - Goddard Rd - VanDyke
 - Caisse has ongoing conversations with landowner about current plan and looks to RCC for recommendation on next steps for replanting/remediation plan.
 - Rogers made a motion to take a poll to discuss code enforcement, seconded by Mellor and Lefebvre.
 - Mellor suggested a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen to enforce the language as set in the rules. Drouin made a motion to adopt the recommendation set forward, Desruisseaux seconded, Commission votes, yea votes are unanimous from members present (Drouin, Lefebvre, Mellor, Rogers, Desruisseaux, Simeone, Dickler), motion passes.
 - 196 Lord Brook
 - Two letters written and sent to violating landowner with no reply or halt in violation.
 - Two possible options. DES recommended, see what DES does OR town sends soil scientist out to remark 50ft buffer to mark out how much they have encroached on it.
 - Caisse and RCC discuss that cease and desist order should be sent with fines assessed to halt landowner cutting until landowner successfully proves they are not in the wetlands buffer.
 - 95 Converseville
 - Landowner declared they have not cut anything since purchasing the property and have not cut anything since. Commission noted that town owns to the high water mark and state owns easement rights.
 - Drouin recommended that landowner needs to meet with RCC to start remediation process and town should file a formal complaint as well. Caisse noted DES requested a formal complaint be filed.
 - 7181 Candlelight
 - Mellor recommended a site review on this, and certain similar cases, before a formal recommendation is decided if landowner is open to it. Caisse will set up site visit.
 - 472 Middle Winchendon
 - Preliminary letter has been sent, this is a newly developed case.
 - 79 Contoocook Lake (Island off public boat launch)
 - Landowner believes ordinance on multiple docks allowance was preexisting, state has permit for singular dock. Ongoing conversation between Caisse, DES and landowner has been cordial.
 - 14 Pine Eden
 - Two letters have been sent to property owner by Caisse.
 - Drouin suggested Caisse speak with NH DOT on issue.

- Commission thanked Caisse for his work and he exited the meeting.
- Meeting with Jaffrey Cons Comm – Lefebvre
 - Meeting held 10/26 to view new web application that Jaffrey had developed that shows multi-layers of wetlands, animal corridors, lands, lot information etc. in one application. Commission noted that it seemed to be a super search engine of public land records that may be useful in Rindge for town, landowner, and/or RCC updated trail map use. Drouin suggested bringing in application developer Jeff Littleton for the December 9 meeting, Mellor will arrange.
- FY 2025 Budget – Drouin
 - No update from October 14 meeting.
- Nov. 11 Dr. Goodby presentation at Rec Ctr (6:30)
 - Recreation building is confirmed, no formal meeting expected
 - Lefebvre will likely borrow library projector.
- Monitoring of conservation lands
 - Mattabeseck Workday - next workday on November 9 – Drouin
 - Light brush work, no chipper
 - Work on new trail parallel to power line (Yellow Trail) on November 9 from 8a-12p
 - Volunteers to meet in the parking lot.
 - Parking & Driveway at Contoocook – Drouin
 - Drouin and Mellor met with Paul Knight on Friday 10/18 to discuss proposed updates which included:
 - Straighter grade to make less steep for better access points.
 - Cut trees to kiosk to open sights and gravel fill behind kiosk to add 2-3 more parking spaces
 - Drouin expected 2-3 loads of gravel and under \$5,000 total cost, but waiting on a formal estimate. Project may not be completed before winter.
 - Converse Meadow
 - Drouin suggested project work on top of hemlock tree that has broken off. Drouin and Mellor made a site visit and believe that thinning out the tree area to the left of the kiosk will clear out the area and make it more appealing to guests.
 - Miriam Hunt Tour Update – Rogers
 - Tour included three people, significantly less than usual likely due to the unseasonably warm weather. Rogers noted that the guests were particularly interesting.
 - Rogers requested additional trail maps and noted that guests requested color-coding of trails on the maps.
 - Lefebvre updated RCC on status of map reordering. He suggested application of color-coding to the maps in future orders.
 - Cheshire Walkers tour of Mattabeseck Update – Oct. 22
 - Mellor shared that Alex Metzger led the Cheshire Walkers at Mattabeseck.
 - Following tour, Mellor reconvened with Alex Metzger, Charles Massin and Del Friedman at Tetreault to mark out boundary between property and Town Forest. When marking out boundary towards Macy Lane in the West, discovered both a four-wheeler corridor and a neighbor's misplaced No Trespassing sign and an unidentified game cam.
 - Tetreault Park Slide
 - Mellor recently spoke with Rindge Rec Department Director Dan Bemis who mentioned Griffon Property Management as a new possible contractor for the Tetreault Park slide.

NEW BUSINESS

- No new business to report.

OFFICIAL NOTICES

- Intent to Cut, Map 17 Lot 8, Monomonac Sporting Club
 - Reviewed by Commission, no update to report.

Invoices

- No invoices



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Announcements/Reminders

- Last (for 2025) Open Historical Society Open Mic at Meeting House, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
- NHACC Annual Conference, Register by Oct 25- \$60, After October 25 -\$70
- Nov. 11 Dr. Goodby presentation at Rec Ctr (6:30)
- February 4, POOR Meat Raffle at American Legion Hall, Jaffrey (need at least 8 helpers) - Lefebvre

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Rogers motioned to approve the minutes of October 14, 2024 as amended, seconded by Mellor. Commission votes: yea votes from Drouin, Lefebvre, Mellor, Rogers. Abstentions: Dickler, Desruisseaux, Simeone. Motion passes.

Adjourned 8:34pm,

NEXT MEETING: November 11, 2024

Schedule of 2024 Meetings: Nov. 11 (Dr Goodby presentation), Dec. 9, 2024.

And any other business that comes before the Commission.