



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 December 9, 2024, 6:30 p.m.

Present

David Drouin
Al Lefebvre
Richard Mellor
Rob Rubendall
Fred Rogers
Phil Simeone

Guests

Steve Lamonde – Moosewood Ecological
Tom Ahlborn-Hsu- Jaffrey Conservation Commission
Almyr Bump - Planning Director, Rindge Planning Board
Richard Synnott – Active Entities Consulting

Meeting called to order at 6:34pm

OLD BUSINESS

- Update on site visits at:
 - 79 - 81 Candlelight Rd.
 - Property owner with work with Rindge Code Enforcement for relief/variance.
 - Middle Winchendon Road
 - R. Mellor conducted site visit with property owner present. Recommendation will be sent to Rindge Code Enforcement Officer for next steps.
- 2025 Budget update – Drouin
 - Budget has been reviewed with little opposition
 - T. Ahlborn-Hsu, JCC, presented to commission that Cathedral of the Pines had offered to host a 2025 Earth Day festival. Proposed that Rindge Conservation Commission could be a co-sponsor, RCC agreed.
- Recreation Update
 - Richard Synnott introduced as member of Rindge Recreation Commission and interested in joining Rindge Conversation Commission. R. Synnott noted that he has explored fundraising efforts for Rindge Recreation Center with a goal of \$30,000 to fund rec center projects.
- Nov 9 Workday update with 10 present: Drouin, Mellor, Rubendall, Desruisseaux, Friedman, Ratcliffs (3-Chris, Morgan, Emmie), Jim & Laurel Cameron
 - Worked on yellow trail, added signs to avert vehicles on trails. The yellow trail has been fully marked.
 - Blue trail has been marked to Perry Rd
 - D. Drouin noted need for additional marking on red trail.
- Nov 11 Dr. Goodby presentation update – Dickler
 - Presentation was a success with 40+ attending.
 - Conservation Commission will send a thank you note to Dr. Goodby.
- Conservation Land & Related
 - New trails at Tetreault – Douin/Mellor
 - R. Mellor discovered old logging trail and clearing that had not grown back in and would be a natural connector with more direct access between rail trail and parking at Tetreault Park.

- A. Lefebvre noted the influx of small connecting trails on map and that direct routes should be adopted in favor of the small connectors that currently exist.
 - On similar note, R. Mellor suggested more user-friendly map features along trails and signage to denote location while on the trail for more novice hikers.
- Winter Plowing – Drouin
 - Five properties included: Converse Meadows, Miriam Hunt, Tetreault Park, Schoolhouse Park, County Rd. Complex,
 - 3-4 requests sent; 2 quotes returned
 - \$600 per storm – unnamed company
 - \$300 per storm – Gordon's
 - Richard Mellor moved to accept Gordon services bid, seconded by Phil Simeone.
 - Commission votes in favor of the motion, with all in favor and the motion passed.
- Gator repair invoice – Drouin
 - Commission members noted to Recreation Director that gator needed service, was taken to John Deere in Milford for repair. Total repair costs \$2,444.60 to be split between Rec department and Conservation Comm.
 - Drouin recommended approving half the bill cost to pay (\$1,222.30).
 - Rob Rubendall moved to approve the cost of \$1,222.30 for half of the repair from the Conservation Fund for the repairs of the John Deere, seconded by Rich Mellor.
 - Commission votes in favor of the motion, with all in favor and the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

- Moosewood Ecological Demonstration – Steve Lamonde
 - Ecologist and project manager working with Jaffrey Conservation Commission on ARC GIS web application with online interactive layers for geological and natural features. S. Lamonde presented the site custom-built for Jaffrey Conservation Commission highlighting the overlapping layers available for mapping parcels, local boundaries, ecological features, etc.
 - Can be updated through upload of tax database data set, or link parcel data to state's parcel database. Town or public data will have to be manually updated, as will trail system.
 - T. Ahlborn-Hsu, JCC, explained Jaffrey's motivations for the application as it pulls readily available public information in one concise place. JCC saw value in sharing with community as educational and research resource, planned to introduce the program to public schools in the spring and saw benefit of Rindge acquiring similar build to mirror assets.
 - Conservation Commission & Public questions and discussion
 - R. Mellor asked for a rough timeline and cost estimate for full project.
 - S. Lamonde will draw up estimate and send to RCC. Plan is to reproduce Jaffrey GIS mapper with addition of trails layer with consultation on trails layer, also addition of presentations. Discussion on total amount will depend on full plan consultation with scope letter reviewed by January 13 meeting.
 - Timeline depends on availability of data sets and trail systems. First useable draft of system by Spring 2025, review through summer and fall then full application delivered by Winter 2025/26.
- Conservationist of the Year announcements – Lefebvre
 - Offer to present winner at Chamber of Commerce Gala on January 18, 2025. Commission debates merit of including award presentation at the gala. It will be discussed at deliberative session and brought back to full commission.
 - A. Lefebvre presented two drafts of plaques for the award- one for an individual award and one for a running award to be kept at town hall. Commission reviewed both drafts with suggestions.
- Monadnock Region Rail Trail Collaborative – Dickler
 - Saturday, February 8 at Tetreault Park
- King's Way Lot line adjustment issues, Map 6 Lot 73 & Map 6 Lot 73-13
 - Commission discussed lot realignment issue presented.
- Goals/plans/strategic planning for 2025 – Drouin



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- Tabled for future meeting.
- NH DES Water Supply Land Protection Grant Program, Annual Stewardship Monitoring Report for Conservation Easement at Mattabesock Wildlife Corridor – due Dec. 31, 2024. Rubendall & Lefebvre
 - Report has been completed by Monadnock Conservancy as they conducted the easement survey.
- Two donations to Conservation Fund totaling \$3,000
 - Acknowledgements will be sent to both contributors.

OFFICIAL NOTICES

- NH DES 2021-00342, Closing of File at Map 8 Lot 35, 221 Bancroft Rd., Alexandre & Joana Silva
 - Remediation plan has been completed, file closed.
- Lachance Dr.
 - No further action
- Terry Aho – dredging wetland for construction – permit
- NH DES 2024-02804, Wetlands & Non-Site Specific Permit, Map 7 Lot 87-3-1, Perry Road, Ray-Tek Construction, LLC
 - Dredging wetland for construction -permit acquired but no construction has been started.

Invoices

- Laminated map for Town Forest \$21.86
- Trail Maps - \$410
- Gator expense - \$1,222.30

Upcoming Events

- Webinar December 12 – link on website
- January 4, POOR Meat Raffle at American Legion Hall, Jaffrey (need at least 8 helpers)

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES for October 24 and November 11, 2024

- Draft was posted to website, approval will moved to next meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNED

- R. Rubendall moved to adjourn, seconded by R. Mellor.
 - Commission votes in favor of the motion, with all in favor and the motion passed.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:52pm

NEXT MEETING: January 13, 2025

Schedule of 2024 Meetings: January 13 & 23, February 10 & 28

And any other business that comes before the Commission.