



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 on October 23, 2025, 6:30 p.m.

Ridge Town Office

Members in Attendance: Rogers, Mellor, Rubendall, Synnott, Lefebvre, Friedman, Dodge

Public in Attendance: Dr. Catherine Koning (FPU), Karl Prüter, Andrew Prock, Connor Marchi, Aaron Graham, David Graham, Noah Delgado, Julia Zdrok, Theo Jacobs

OLD BUSINESS

- FPU Internship and class project – Rogers
 - Dr. Catherine Koning announced signs will be presented on Monday 10/27, 2p in 208 Marcucella Hall, commission is invited to presentation.
- 250th Declaration of Independence Tree Planting – Lefebvre
 - Tree was delivered 10/21 and has been planted along School Street. Dedication in July 2026.
 - Dodge noted purchasing a treegator would be useful to regulate watering while tree adjusts. Noted he will get pricing for commission.
 - Lefebvre recommended a gesture of thanks to DPW for their efforts, possibly a letter to Town Admin and Selectmen, additional ideas discussed.
- Conservation Land & Related –
 - Tetreault vandalism – Mellor
 - Game cameras showed photos of vehicle damaging Tetreault property.
 - Photos were reported to police department.
 - Trail work at Mattabeseck – Mellor/Rubendall
 - Rubendall and Mellor went out prior week and cleared, mapped, blazed final trail at Mattabeseck.
 - Boulders will be added along blue trail by power lines to mark out trail in the winter. Gravel pit owner offered to do work, and use of ofrv for commission work.
 - Miriam Hunt hike report – Rogers
 - 2nd event of Bat Appreciation Month. Eight attendees including Rogers and Rubendall. No bats, great hike.
 - Rubendall suggested making wire post sign that can be posted at entrances signaling hike location.
 - Dodge asked if more saplings, brush needs to be cut at Miriam Hunt. Mellor noted Gordon Property Maintenance is contracted to mow and clear as advised. No additional clearing needed.
 - Workday plans; November 8; Project list attached
 - Commission discussed project completed and in progress in relation to Nov. 8 Workday.
 - Additional boundary markers needed at Mattabeseck and trail clearing to Perry Rd.
 - Workday, 11/8 at 8am at Mattabeseck. Abutter offered her driveway for volunteer parking.
 - Synnott brought up marking for Blue Trail off rail trail, trail is being decommissioned, Rubendall will cover blaze. Also noted signage denoting Tetreault and Town Forest boundary on trails.
 - Perry Road Parking and Trail – Rubendall
 - Suggestion to add small secondary parking area, will need approval from Monadnock Conservancy since they hold the easement. Potential project for 11/8 Workday. Added that a 100'x2' boardwalk should be added as alternate entrance area and way to highlight natural features. Workday could incorporate clearing trail to anticipated boardwalk area.
 - Lefebvre noted that before parking area is created, map and plan for trail and boardwalk needs to be presented to Conservancy.
 - Converse Meadow – Friedman

- Friedman participated in annual walk with Conservancy on 10/23. While on walk, found encroachment on eastern side of RCC property (deer stand). Report with next step suggestions will be written by Conservancy and distributed.
 - Dodge asked about removing stand, recommendation for Conservancy handle next steps.
- NHACC carpooling and workshop sign-up (bring your choices for comparison)
 - Lefebvre, Synnott, Rubendall, Dickler, Drouin will attend. Carpool leaving from Town Offices, 6:45a.
 - Commission discussed various programs they plan to attend at conference.
- NRI mapping update – Friedman
 - Rubendall prompted Steven on delivery date. Presentation of first round of project by Dec. 8 meeting.
 - Lefebvre noted that a deliverable would have been helpful leading into town budget sessions.

NEW BUSINESS

- Chamber of Commerce newsletter – Dickler
 - Dickler absent. Commission discussed ideas for a small article to include: winter hiking, tracking, trails.
- January program discussion – Lefebvre
 - Suggested a local birder with research on bird call frequency on Contoocook and Converse, and town as whole. Locally pertinent topic was well-received by commission. Lefebvre will follow up.
- Aaron Graham; Troop 308 scout project
 - Senior patrol, 308. Proposal for Eagle Scout project and merit badge. Needs 8hrs for volunteer.
 - Eagle Scout Proposal –Add kiosk with map and QR code at entrances for better hiking experience.
 - Rubendall reminded that trails have been previously mapped and are in process of being updated for new mapping. Discussion on possible alternate projects.
 - For merit badge, recommendation of walking trails and noting downed trees and areas needing additional blazes for ease of navigation or attending the next Workday on 11/8.
 - Recommendation to Aaron to develop plan and come to Nov. 10 meeting with project ideas.
- Trail sign proposal for Contoocook – Lefebvre
 - Lefebvre presented proposal for signage to encourage public to enjoy trails on Contoocook property. Mellor recommended following through with project and come to 11/10 with cost estimate.
- Rotary Auction – Rogers
 - Rogers spoke with Tom Hsu about April 2026 Earth Day event.
- Donation – Rubendall
 - Rubendall read a letter sent to RCC commending recent efforts, included photo and \$1,000 donation.

OFFICIAL NOTICES

- BOA notice; Map 47, Lot 45; 11 Sharon Placed; Cathy and Andre Lavoie
 - Commission reviewed case, no potential conservation violations found.

Account Approvals & Update

- Liberty Tree invoice - signed

Upcoming Events

- Rindge Open Mic at Meetinghouse; Saturday October 25
- NHACC Annual Conference; Saturday November 1
- Conference, Keene State; Wednesday November 15
- Workday – Saturday, November 8, 2025. 8am at Mattabeseck.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES for October 13, 2025 (attached)

- Lefebvre moved to approve the minutes of October 13, seconded by Synnott. Commission voted 5-0 in favor, 2 abstentions. Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

- Lefebvre moved to adjourn meeting, seconded by Friedman. Commission voted 7-0 in favor, adjourned 8:13pm.

NEXT MEETING: November 10, 2025 at Town Office

Schedule of 2025 Meetings: Dec. 8

And any other business that comes before the Commission.

Respectfully submitted, Amanda Nardini