



CONSERVATION COMMISSION

30 PAYSON HILL ROAD

RINDGE, NH 03461

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Minutes for Meeting on November 10, 2025, 6:30 p.m.

Ridge Town Office

Meeting called to order, 6:30pm

Members Present: Drouin, Rubendall, Lefebvre, Dickler, Rogers, Simeone, Synnott, Mellor

Public Present: Aaron Graham, David Graham

OLD BUSINESS

- FPU posters and Merrimac Conservation Grant update -Rogers/Dickler
 - Mattabeseck signage is in editing, expected to be completed in one week. 12-14 signs expected. Printing and frames will be outside cost unless FPU print shop can weatherproof. Cost may not be covered under grant for Contoocook Watershed.
 - Grant provides \$4,848 to design, print, and place eight signs in Contoocook Marsh by May 1, 2027, RCC to cover 25% of cost (\$1,212). Frames can be ordered at any time, signs will be developed and ordered by September 2026.
 - Commission decided on four topics for Dickler to begin designing signs: Turtles, Waterfowl, Aquatic Vegetation, Dragon and Damselflies.
- Liberty Elm Tree planting update – Lefebvre
 - Tree is leaning. Commission discussed methods to rotate tree and re-secure. Minimum of 2 additional stakes needed and backfill on south side. Drouin and Lefebvre will fix on Saturday, November 15, 8a. with other members as available.
- Aaron Graham eagle scout hours and bridge proposal
 - Visited Converse Meadow footbridge with intent to develop new bridge site. Proposed to create new bridge and trail approx. 200m from existing location and decommission old bridge/trail. Build in late spring/early summer 2026. Asked Commission to schedule site visit to determine feasibility and location approval.
 - Commission scheduled site visit for Friday, November 28, 9am at Converse Meadow.
- Report on NHACC conference – attendees
 - Drouin, Synnott, Lefebvre, Rubendall attended. Discussed notable topics and speakers.
- Trail sign update for Contoocook – Lefebvre
 - Lefebvre presented redesign of signs for Contoocook.
 - Synnott recommended creating style guide for all RCC pieces (QR, logo, colors, etc.). Topic will be addressed at Signage Sub-Committee, created by Drouin and including Dickler, Synnott, Lefebvre.
- Conservation Land & Related –
 - Workday at Mattabeseck report
 - 2hrs logged with 11-12 volunteers.
 - Mellor consented to have kiosk at Contoocook removed, reassigned to Perry Rd.
 - Deer stand(s) at Converse Meadows – Drouin/Mellor
 - Recommendation to approach NH Fish & Game for resolution.
 - DES/Monadnock Conservancy walk at Mattabeseck, Wednesday, 11/12 at 9:00
 - Mellor and Rubendall will attend site visit.

- Trail Steward reported damage on Red Trail, Mellor shared photo with RCC.
- Damage to bridge at Contoocook Reserve
 - Rubendall shared photos with damaged lattice work on recently repaired bridge. Commission agreed to add to 2026 project list.
- Winter 2025-26 Speaker - Lefebvre
 - Nora Hankey confirmed for birding presentation, Saturday 1/17/26, 10am/2pm.

NEW BUSINESS

- BOS/BAC budget meeting 11/12 – Drouin
 - Commission reviewed budget documents and discussed line items.
- NHACC Collaborative Land Management – Dickler
 - Application to participate in series working with private landowners and conservation. Commission will submit application, due 11/14, will decide on participation.
- Chamber of Commerce newsletter – Dickler
 - Article submitted, *Giving Winter Birds a Helping Hand*, with upcoming event dates.

OFFICIAL NOTICES

- Intent to cut: Map 7; Lot 91 - 23 acre lot, intent to cut 8 acres. Mellor will update.
- DES notification of Power Line work
- ZBA Case 2025-15 – not enough information on application to render opinion.

Account Approvals & Update

- Gordon Services invoice

NON-PUBLIC SESSION: REAL ESTATE: RSA 91-A:3

- Lefebvre moved to enter Non-Public Session Real Estate RSA 91-A:3, seconded by Mellor. Drouin surveyed the commission for a vote, 8-0 approved. Commission moved to non-public at 8:49pm.

Upcoming Events

- Conservationist of the Year Award and Lecture 1/17
- Full Moon Hike, Tetreault, 1/31

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES for October 23, 2025

- Lefebvre moved to accept the minutes of October with changes as noted, seconded by Rogers. Commission voted 6-0 in favor, two abstentions.

ADJOURNMENT

Mellor moved to seal the minutes from the non-public session; Rogers seconded. Members voted unanimously to accept.

Dickler moved to adjourn at 9:25; seconded by Simeone, Commission voted 8-0 in favor, meeting adjourned.

NEXT MEETING: December 8, 2025 at Town Office

Schedule of 2026 Meetings: TBA

Respectfully submitted, Amanda Nardini

Approved 12/8/2025