

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

30 PAYSON HILL ROAD

RINDGE, NH 03461

Tel. (603) 899-5181

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### Minutes for Meeting on March 8, 2021, 7:00 p.m.

Conservation Commission members present: David Drouin, Richard Mellor, Al Lefebvre, Paul McPhie, Phil Simeone

Alternates Members present: William Preston, Deni Dickler, Rob Rubendall

Other participants: Holly Koski, Rick Van de Poll

### OLD BUSINESS

- Playscape –Drouin reported an email from Richards that she had talked with Dan Bemis, Rec Director, who indicated that he had some funds that he was going to ask to put toward the natural playscape at Tetreault Park. He will let the Commission know if successful. The funds will go a long way to moving the project along.
- Snow Moon Hike – Drouin reported that 21 people attended the hike on Feb 27 and that it was very successful. Everyone enjoyed it.
- Ford Family Nature Preserve parking lot pipes – Drouin reported that he was waiting to hear from the Board of Selectmen to go forward with removing the asbestos cemented pipes. He and McPhie had obtained dimensions needed for the Millers River crossing in order to build a foot walk of some type.
- Future Meetings, Work Days & Activities Calendar– Lefebvre was asked the status of the annual calendar. He indicated he was open to receiving information about project work needed at the different conservation areas in order to create the calendar. Coordinating projects with Earth Day was mentioned was a possibility. Lefebvre was asked to ask members of the Conservation Corps to indicate their willingness to participate in a light workday at one of the areas on April 24 as part of Earth Day.
- Planning Board presentation – Dickler reported that due more time needed to put a presentation together so this project is delayed. Dickler and other members of the Commission would like the presentation to focus on wetlands.
- Salamander Crossings – Dickler mentioned that the Harris Center will hold training using Zoom on March 18 which she and Rubendall will attend. Questions arose about where the salamander crossings in Rindge are located.
- Monitoring of conservation lands – Lefebvre – no updates were provided except for the Ford Family Nature preserve as outlined above.

### NEW BUSINESS

- Wetlands Study – Van de Poll indicated that he needed guidance about the type of wetlands study the Commission wanted him to pursue. He pointed out the minimum acreage (2 acres) needed for a prime wetlands designation. He explained the type of study he conducted for the Fitzwilliam Conservation Commission and suggested that Rindge might best follow that model. The Commission agreed and asked him to develop a draft budget. Van de Poll agreed and indicated that if the Commission decided to proceed, he would be able to complete it by November.

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- Don Scott (Design and Landscape Architecture) presented applications. Mr. Scott presented the plans that were outlined in the owners' Shoreland Permit application and the Wetlands Permit-by-Notification forms. The applications were reviewed by the Commission. Scott will pursue variance relief with the ZBA.
- New Town website – Lefebvre reported that the town will have a new website in early April and that data from the current system will be migrated to the new one. Only two years of Minutes will be brought into the new system. Lefebvre reviewed Commission FAQs, files & documents and links on the current system and asked members to review the lists and let him know which of those should not be migrated to the new system; it's easier and would save time in the long run to do it before the data migration.
- BOA Case 1165, Map 4 Lot 23, 581 Route 119, Navian Development – Drouin: Final application has not been received by BOA so this discussion was postponed until after it is filed.
- Harris Center Membership – McPhie asked if the Commission wanted to renew its membership with the Harris Center and the Commission indicated that it would like to have the membership as it provides support for its program and activities.
- Virtual Meetings for April/May? – Lefebvre asked if the Commission wanted to continue its meetings using Zoom until the end of May. The Commission agreed but would re-evaluate in May depending on the covid virus status.
- Term updates – for Rogers, Mellor, McPhie, Richards & Rubendall – Lefebvre reported that the aforementioned members' terms appear to be expiring in March and, if so, that these members should send letters in April to the Board of Selectmen requesting reappointment.

Simeone moved and Lefebvre seconded to enter non-public. The Commission was polled and all agreed.

## NON-PUBLIC SESSION per RSA 91-A:3 – REAL ESTATE

Mellor motioned and Simeone seconded to seal the minutes of the non-public meeting. The Commission agreed with the motion.

## APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: Public and Non-public Minutes, February 25, 2021

Mellor motioned and Dickler seconded to approve the public Minutes of February 25. Lefebvre requested to add the following text into the public Minutes as they were not included in the draft Minutes.

Lefebvre presented invoices from Rick Van de Poll for work he performed:

- Preston motioned and Lefebvre seconded to approve payment of \$552.50 from the Conservation Fund to Van de Poll for wetlands research. The Commission voted and approved the motion.
- Preston motioned and Mellor seconded to approve payment of \$1381.25 from the Conservation Fund to Van de Poll for preparing grant applications related to Rindge Stone & Gravel. The Commission voted and approved the motion.

The Commission approved the change and the Minutes. Rubendall abstained.

Mellor motioned and Preston seconded to approve the Non-Public Minutes of February 25. The Commission approved the motion with Rubendall abstaining.

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### CONSERVATION COMMISSION EMAILS - None

### CORRESPONDENCE – None

### OFFICIAL NOTICES

NH DES Wetlands Permit-by-Notification, Map 45-13, 40 Pulaski Dr., Emily & Alex Neil – see notes from Scott discussion above.

NH DES Shoreland Permit Application, Map 45-13, 40 Pulaski Dr., Emily & Alex Neil - see notes from Scott discussion above.

NH DES Wetlands Permit-by-Notification, Map 14-20, 66 Paradise Island, Michael & Kelly Curtis - see notes from Scott discussion above.

### FINANCIAL REPORTS: None

**NEXT MEETING:** March 25, 2021 (virtual via Zoom)

**Schedule of 2021 Meetings** (*note: Jan – Mar meetings will be virtual via Zoom*): Apr. 12 & 22, May 10 & 27, June 14 & 24, July 12 & 22, Aug. 9 & 26, Sept. 13 & 23, Oct. 11 & 28, Nov. 8, Dec. 1

Meeting adjourned at: 9:00 pm

*Minutes recorded by Al Lefebvre*