



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 May 10, 2021, 7:00 p.m.

This meeting was held online via Zoom.

Meeting convened at 7:00 pm

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

Alternate members present: William Preston, Deni Dickler, Fred Dodge

Other attendees/participants: Robert Chamberlain, Skip Hagstrom, Julie Sementa, Julie Unger, Andy Varrecchia

OLD BUSINESS

- Ford Family Nature Preserve parking lot pipes – Drouin reported that the Town Administrator approved removal of cement asbestos pipes but wanted feedback from the contractor about any long-term liability. Drouin will proceed with the removal and talk with the contractor.
- Future Meetings, Work Days & Activities Calendar– Lefebvre reviewed the calendar for the year and inserted names at particular dates. Dickler requested assistance at the first Farmers Market on May 20 and Lefebvre and Dodge volunteered. Lefebvre reported that the Commission has two short-sleeve t-shirts(1white (small), 1 red (med) and 1 yellow long-sleeve (large) and 6 orange hats that will be available for sale. Other colors and sizes can be ordered. Future meetings of the Commission will be held at the Town Office now that members have received their covid vaccinations. Social distancing will continue to be observed.
- Earth Day review – Drouin requested and received updates and the clean-ups at the 3 conservation lands that were worked-on. Converse Meadow with McPhie and Rubendall and 1 volunteer who joined the Conservation Corps moved limbs, etc. and noticed a number of trees bent over due to the recent heavy snowfall. Trail work is needed at Converse Meadow especially the bridge over the stream coming from the meadow. It needs major work/replacement due to wash-outs caused by the beavers. Lefebvre reported that he was supported by Dickler and one member of the Conservation Corps (Schenk) and two other volunteers (J. Dickler and Julie Unger). Lots of fallen sticks and trash were picked up. Richards reported that she, Dodge, Simeone and Preston cleaned the area under the cabin at Tetreault with Drouin using his truck/trailer removed. Mellor reported he picked up trash at Schoolhouse Park trails and along the road.
- Playscape – Richards reported that Lemon Tree consulting was working on a topo map of the playscape area and that areas will need grading. A presentation will be made to the Board of Selectmen and then an “open house” for the public at Tetreault.
- Summer Volunteer Service update Richards related the following dates for assistance with the summer volunteers and will be finalized at the next meeting.
 - A1 - Wednesday July 7 (9:15-11:00am for all dates)
 - A2 - Monday July 12
 - B1 - Wednesday July 28
 - B2 - Monday August 2

- NHB Database for rare species – Dickler reported that residents will be invited to submit sightings of rare species in Rindge to the National Heritage Bureau. A flyer will be prepared for distribution at Farmers Market.
- Wildwood Camperships Status – Lefebvre reported that awards were made and accepted by the children awarded last year but unable to attend. The last award was made to an applicant from this year. Recipients were notified as was Wildwood Camp. There is still a campership for a resident, ages 15-17, for the Environmental Leadership program.
- Status of Wetlands appeal letter. Mellor reported that he had submitted an appeal letter to the BOA.
- Monitoring of conservation lands – information was as reported above during Earth Day.

NEW BUSINESS

- BOA Case 1166, Variance Application, Map 26 Lot 8, 35 E. Main St., Robert & Roberta Chamberlain. Carl (Skip) Hagstrom and Mr. Chamberlain explained the proposed new septic system and the reason for the ADU special exception. The current septic system/field had been previously approved by the BOA for the ADU “as long as it was working” according to Mr. Chamberlain but he wanted to improve it. The new system is constrained by location to wetlands and to a neighbor’s well. The new system will be about 70 feet from the wetlands. The RCC found that it was basically a “grandfathered” system which the new one would improve upon. The RCC will send a letter to the BOA noting that it is a 4 bedroom ADU which the new system will accommodate. DES will evaluate the system for a 3 bedroom home.
- NH DES 2021-01290 Shoreland Permit App received from Candice Starret, 31 Hebron Point Rd., Map 21 Lot 17-1. The RCC can take no action on this type of application.
- Rindge Town Forest – Lefebvre reported that Lot 3A of the Rindge Town Forest is not registered on the Town’s property listing. He will make arrangements with the Town Administrator for its inclusion.
- Updating Conservation Lands on GRANIT – Dickler volunteered to work to have Rindge’s conservation lands so noted on GRANIT.

Someone motioned to enter a Non-Public session per RSA 91-A-3 Real Estate. Lefebvre seconded the motion and the Commission voted and approved the motion.

In public, Mellor motioned and Preston seconded to seal the Minutes of the Non-Public meeting. The Commission voted and approved the motion.

Announcements

- Fund Raising Status – Lefebvre reported that the Commission had received additional donations and now exceeded the matching grant goal of \$25,000. Once the sale of the land is near finalization, he will send a notice to the donor but will provide an update to the contact person.
- Statewide Model Drinking Water Buffer Stakeholder Meeting, Monday, May 24, 2021 from 2:00-4:00pm.. This Zoom presentation about wetland buffers is recommended to Conservation Commission members by NHACC.
- Mellor motioned and Preston seconded to expend \$87.60 to reimburse Lefebvre for postal mailing charges. The Commission voted and approved the motion.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: Public and Non-public Minutes, April 22, 2021

Richards motioned and Preston seconded to approve the public and non-public Minutes of April 22, 2021. The Commission voted and approved the motion with Dodge abstaining.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION EMAILS - None
CORRESPONDENCE – None



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OFFICIAL NOTICES

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Postage \$5.66

NEXT MEETING: May 27, 2021 at the Town Office (Selectmen's meeting room)

Schedule of 2021 Meetings: June 14 & 24, July 12 & 22, Aug. 9 & 26, Sept. 13 & 23, Oct. 11 & 28, Nov. 8, Dec. 13

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Al Lefebvre