

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

30 PAYSON HILL ROAD

RINDGE, NH 03461

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Minutes for Meeting on October 22, 2020 at the Rindge Recreation/Community Center, Wellington Road

The meeting convened at 7:00 pm.

Conservation Commission members present: David Drouin, Richard Mellor, Al Lefebvre, Doreen Richards, Fred Rogers

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

OLD BUSINESS

- Playscape – Richards, Rubendall and Mellor reported that they held a virtual meeting with Jennifer Brook of Lemon Brooke Architects of Groton MA., Dan Bemis and Jared Reini about the playscape initiative. Mr. Reini indicated that there was strong neighborhood support for the playscape at Tetreault. Brooke provided planning options and suggested developing a contour map of the area and identifying trees and rocks. She said trying to develop a plan for only \$2000 would be a waste of funds at the present time. She said it would be better to compile a basic idea of what is desirable and creating a plan that parents and residents can see and which could be used for fund raising. Legal issues for the playscape were also discussed.
- Update on PURD Subcommittee – Dickler reported that the subcommittee is meeting, re-searching and discussing aspects to a PURD. The issue of workforce housing is also being discussed but it is a separate issue from a PURD
- NHACC annual meeting, Sat., Nov. 7, \$35 for Members, \$50 for non-members. Lefebvre reported he had registered and that the virtual annual meeting is only ½ day.
- Response to Planning Board regarding Navian Development – Drouin shared his draft letter to the Planning Board and changes were suggested. Drouin will redraft the letter and share it with Commission members before sending it.
- Monitoring of conservation lands – Lefebvre
 - o Contocook Marsh – Mellor reported that McPhie had spread clover and other seeds at Roger's landing.
 - o Ford Family Wildlife Preserve – Drouin reported that DPW had dumped some needed gravel at the preserve's entrance and that McPhie had sown clover and other seeds at the preserve.
 - o Converse Meadow - Rubendall reported that he had placed usage signs at the tent platforms and found an old tent on one of the platforms but no trash.
 - o Town Forest – Richards indicated that grass cutting is needed and hoped to get to it.
 - o Schoolhouse Park - Dodge reported that he had provided a load of woodchips and spread them at Schoolhouse. Mellor reported that he had cut off dangerous limbs and moved them out of the way. He said that there was a tree down along the trail. Two old tires are also near the park entrance.

NEW BUSINESS

- Schoolhouse Park Tour – Mellor reported that seventeen people attended the waling tour on October 19 and enjoyed it very much.

- 2021 Budget Planning – Drouin reported that the Commission’s meeting with the Board of Selectmen and Budget Advisory Committee is scheduled for Nov 18. He reviewed the status of the current budget and heard suggestions for the 2021 budget.
- Trees for Common – Drouin reported that he had discussed trees for the Common with Mike Cloutier who indicated that he was working with Robblee Tree Service for possible suggestions and was targeting an early spring planting. Dodge had researched trees for the Common and suggested different types that would conform to Cloutier’s and the Town’s needs such as October red maple, sweet gum, Ginkgo Biloba and Katsura. Dickler emphasized that native trees should be planted. A meeting with Cloutier, Robblee, Dodge and Drouin to finalize the selection.
- Future Meetings & Activities – Lefebvre shared a draft of the 2021 meeting/event schedule. As some had concerns about the corona virus, returning to virtual meetings was discussed. It was decided that the December and first meeting in January would be virtual meetings with decisions about future meetings to be discussed at the January meeting.
- Mellor reported that the Cheshire County Conservation District’s Annual Meeting will be a virtual meeting and held on October 27. Interested members are encouraged to register and attend.

Mellor motioned Rogers seconded to seal the non-public Minutes.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: October 12, 2020

Preston moved and Dodge seconded to approve the Minutes October 12, 2020. The Commission members approved the motion (Rogers abstained).

CONSERVATION COMMISSION EMAILS - None

CORRESPONDENCE - None

OFFICIAL NOTICES –

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

NEXT MEETING: Nov. 9, 2020

2020 Schedule of Meetings: Nov. 9, December 14

2021: Jan. 11 & 28, Feb. 8 & 25, Mar. 8 & 25, Apr. 12 & 22, May 10 & 27, June 14 & 24, July 12 & 22, Aug. 9 & 26, Sept. 13 & 23, Oct. 11 & 28, Nov. 8, Dec. 13

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Al Lefebvre