



CONSERVATION COMMISSION

30 PAYSON HILL ROAD

RINDGE, NH 03461

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Draft Minutes for Meeting on July 27, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

Meeting Convened at 7:01 pm

Members present: David Drouin, Richard Mellor, Al Lefebvre, Rob Rubendall, Fred Rogers, Phil Simeone

Alternate Members present: Joe Desruisseaux, Fred Dodge

Other Attendees:

OLD BUSINESS

- Tetreault Park/Playscape update – Mellor reported that he has continued his work on a number of the playscape activities. More work there is needed and he will meet with Dan Bemis and the Recreation Committee on July 31 to enlist their assistance for their playscape where it is particularly needed.
- Tetreault electrician quotes – Lefebvre provided three quotes for this work. Mellor motioned and Lefebvre seconded to award the work to a local, nearby electrician and Commission members approved. Mellor emphasized the need for the electrician to be available to insert conduit once Ever-source installs the pole and the trench is dug to the cabin from the pole. Mellor will contact the electrician for the work with an overall timetable.
- Land Use Coordinator Position/Planning Director – Drouin discussed the need for this full-time position. The current Planning Director has already recommended that a full-time person is needed to handle the many requests from the public particularly as he vacates the position in August. Lefebvre mentioned that planning for the Town is needed to plan for the future and to take advantage of funding opportunities. The fact was noted that the town has a full-time police chief, fire chief, public works director, recreation director and financial director. Planning is a vitally important part of any municipal entity.
- July 23 Converse Meadow tour update – Dodge reported that 5 people with kayaks and 1 with a canoe participated in the water tour during which they saw a bald eagle. Desruisseaux reported that there was one person who took the walking tour of the conservation land. Everyone who attended enjoyed the day.
- Merrimack signs – Lefebvre asked commission members to review the proposed nature signs and to report errors so they can be corrected for final printing. He received and will share the changes with Deni Dickler who will contact Susan Kochinskas the designer. The Commission indicated an interest in having nature signs for Mattabesec such as one for Blanding's turtle, vernal pools or water resources. More signs will be discussed at the next meeting with Dickler.
- Fred Dodge reported that he had trimmed the American chestnut trees that were planted a few Year ago. Lefebvre reported that he had weed whacked around the kiosk and the trail to the canoe put-in at Converse Meadow while Drouin reported he had cut grass on the trail leading to the bridge near the entrance. Lefebvre also weed-whacked the area around the kiosk at Contoocook Marsh.
- Monitoring of conservation land
 - Schoolhouse Park – Lefebvre will provide Mellor with Boy Scout contact information for clearing effort at Schoolhouse prior to the next tour on August 20.

NEW BUSINESS

- CNBRLAC 2023 dues and representation – Lefebvre reported that he had received email from CNBRLAC (Connecticut and North Branch Rivers Local Advisory Committee) contacted him to inquire about a Rindge Conservation Commission member to replace the late Bill Preston and about

membership dues which are now \$250/year. The Commission voted to approve an expenditure for membership and for Lefebvre to represent Rindge.

- Possible Wetlands Violation at Converseville Rd., Map 7 Lot 96-3 or 96. The Commission recognized the wetlands violation and the town's Enforcement Officer was supposed to talk with the owner(s).
- Wednesday morning meetings to review permits with Rick Donovan – The Commission asked Phil Simeone to continue in his role with this group which had ceased meeting.
- Bancroft Road Restoration Plan Monitoring Report – The Commission was sent the restoration status report from Tom Peragallo and was impressed with its depth. The Commission felt that it was a model to follow for other violators when restoration was needed and required.
- The Commission noted that the Town's Code Enforcement Officer said he would attend the Commission's next meeting on Monday, August 14.

OFFICIAL NOTICES:

Announcements/Reminders

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: Minutes for July 10, 2023

Rubendall motioned and Rogers seconded to approve the Minutes of July 10, 2023. The Commission voted and approved the motion with Simeone abstaining

NEXT MEETING: August 14, 2023

Conservation Land Tours: August 20 Schoolhouse Park, Sept. 17 Contoocook Marsh, October 16 Miriam Hunt town Forest. Possible Moonlight Walk at Mattabeseck on date to be determined.

Schedule of 2023 Meetings: Aug. 24, Sept. 11 & 28, Oct. 9 & 26, Nov. 13, Dec. 11.
And any other business that comes before the Commission.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Minutes recorded by Lefebvre