



CONSERVATION COMMISSION

30 PAYSON HILL ROAD

RINDGE, NH 03461

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Minutes for Meeting on August 14, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

Meeting Convened at 7:01 pm

Members present: David Drouin, Richard Mellor, Al Lefebvre, Rob Rubendall

Alternate Members present: Joe Desruisseaux, Fred Dodge, Deni Dickler, Del Friedman

Other Attendees: Andrew Cotain

OLD BUSINESS

- Tetreault Park, Playscape update – Mellor reported that the stump walk is done but needs soil for the ga-ga pit and the spider web. The playscape needs more hands-on and financial support from the Recreation Committee to complete the project in a timely manner as originally agreed with the Conservation Commission. Trees have been cut-down along the electrical line area. He, Drouin and Rubendall devoted a Saturday to chipping trees and limbs from the cabin area.
- Land Use Coordinator/Full-time Director Position – Drouin reported that the Board of Selectmen approved funding for a part-time Planning Director.
- Monitoring of conservation lands
 - Mattabesec Trail - Rubendall reported that he and Mellor, with the assistance of Wildwood campers/staff, trails along to the top ridge and connecting to the new trail have been cleared and are now open to the public. He has placed trail markers on both of these trails. Other trails will need to be cleared when time permits. He purchased some trail sign arrows.
 - Miriam Hunt Town Forest – Drouin reported that he had spoken with Paul Knight to ask him to scrape the driveway before spreading gravel that will be delivered.
 - Contoocook Marsh Complex – some trees have been cleared along the trails.
 - Ford Family Wildlife Preserve – Chipping remains to be done when time permits.
 - Schoolhouse Park & Troop 308 Work – Mellor reported that the Scouts moved trees and limbs that had come down from storms or from trail clearing and had moved them to the parking area. He, Drouin and Rubendall chipped those limbs and others already there. Chips were spread along the trail.

NEW BUSINESS

- Meeting with Rick Donovan & Lori Rautiola on code enforcement. The Commission had a productive discussion with Rick and Lori. Discussion focused on three outstanding cases: Goddard Road, Route 202 at Commercial Drive and Converse Meadow clearing. Rick indicated that he had spoken with the owner of the Converse Meadow violation and will work with him. Rick wanted copies of files the Commission has for the other violations and will speak with violators of Town Ordinances.
- BOA Special Exception Application, Map 48 Lot 76, 90 Thayer Rd., David Temple. The Commission reviewed the application for an addition on a non-conforming building due to its area within the wetlands buffer. After review and discussion with Andrew Cotain, the contractor, the Commission decided that it would be unable to recommend supporting the special exception application. A letter will be sent to the Board of Adjustment.
- Schoolhouse Park Tour – August 20 at 1:30. Notice has been posted and sent to newspapers.
- Possible summer schedule change – Rubendall discussed the possibility of having one Commission meeting at the Town Office in the summer and one at a conservation area to perform work as there are many projects at various conservation areas that require attention. Other options focused on trying to get members of the Conservation Corps to assist. Dickler suggested having one, specific day (i.e.

Saturday) of the month from 8:00 am to Noon set aside for conservation effort. This day is to be emailed to Corps members and posted. Sept 9, Oct. 14 and Nov 11 are the target work days.

- Conservation Corps engagement – Dickler and Lefebvre will work on communications with the Corps and Friends.
- New signs for Contoocook – Dickler reviewed signs that have been ordered for this conservation area that is part of the Contoocook watershed and where they will be placed. Material needed for placing the signs was discussed. Since it is also part of the Contoocook watershed, future signs for Mattabesec were also discussed.
- Chamber of Commerce news – Dickler reviewed the article she prepared that is due on August 16.

OFFICIAL NOTICES:

- NH DES 2023-00934, Shoreland Impact Permit, Map 14 Lot 42, 50 La Chance Dr., John Montgomery. Reviewed by the Commission
- NH DES 2023-02727, Incomplete Wetlands Permit-by-Notification, Map #P Lot 15, 87 Paradise Island Rd., Tim Lightfoot. Reviewed by the Commission

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: Minutes for July 27, 2023

Mellor motioned and Desruisseaux seconded to approve the Minutes of July 27, 2023. The Commission voted and approved the motion with Dickler and Friedman abstaining

NEXT MEETING: August 24, 2023

Conservation Land Tours:

Sept. 17 Contoocook Marsh,

October 15 Miriam Hunt town Forest. Possible Moonlight Walk at Mattabesec on date to be determined.

Schedule of 2023 Meetings: Sept. 11 & 28, Oct. 9 & 26, Nov. 13, Dec. 11.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm

Minutes recorded by Lefebvre.