



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 January 8, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

Meeting Convened at 7:00 pm

Members present: David Drouin, Al Lefebvre, Richard Mellor, Fred Rogers

Alternate members present: Joe Desruisseaux, Deni Dickler

OLD BUSINESS

- Budget Update – Drouin reviewed the discussions he has had with the Board of Selectmen and will meet again with them on January 10. The issue centers on the Commission's budget increase for snowplowing and ground maintenance at the various conservation lands.
- Conservation Award – Lefebvre reviewed the latest version of the nomination form and will make changes based on Commission input. A subcommittee will be formed in late spring to review criteria and possible processing dates.
- Year-End Report – Drouin distributed and discussed the report he sent to the Town Administrator for inclusion in the Town's Annual Report.
- Jeff Littleton Watershed Presentation – January 25* at Rec Center (7:00 pm). This presentation will be at 6:30 pm. The presentation will need set-up assistance for chairs and computers/projector. Dickler will prepare and send notices to newspapers; Lefebvre will notify Corps and Friends' members and place the notice on the Town website. Commission members will arrive at 6:00 pm to assist with set-up.
- Moonlight Walk – January 27* – 7:00 pm at Tetreault Park/Town Forest. Notice of this event will be sent notices to newspapers; Lefebvre will notify Corps and Friends' members and place the notice on the Town website.
- Recreation Playscape update – the current status was reviewed by Commissioners who reported that residents and children are taking notice of the playscape. The Recreation Commission brought children to the playscape opening on December 13 and they were quite enthused about it. During their stay, they played on all the different events.
- Monitoring of conservation lands. Members noted that chipping is needed at Converse Meadow, Hunt and Contoocook areas which will be handled as weather permits.

NEW BUSINESS

- Amanda Littleton – Director of CCCD (Cheshire County Conservation District) will make a short presentation after Jeff Littleton's Watershed presentation to explain available services from the CCCD.
- 2024 Conservation Commission Goals, Plans, Needs – The Commission agreed to work on this at its first meeting in February (12). Some of the items to be initially discussed were maps, signage, trails, plantings, educational events as well as some fundraising activities (i.e. firewood raffle, Christmas tree chipping).
- CNBRLAC Annual Report – Lefebvre shared CNBRLAC's annual report and what takes place at these meetings. This report will be placed on the Town's website with the hotlink to CNBRLAC's full report.

OFFICIAL NOTICES

- NHDES 2023-03217, Forestry Statutory Permit-by-Notification, Map 11 Lot 33, Annett State Forest. Reviewed by the Commission

Announcements/Reminders

- Donation to Conservation Fund – Lefebvre reported that the Conservation Commission received a donation from Charles and Daphne Sampson in appreciation for its work.
- Hats - Lefebvre reviewed a previous hat decision and shared two other options. The Commission decided on a green hat to be sold along with the orange hat.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: Minutes for December 11, 2023

Mellor motioned and Desruisseaux seconded to approve the Dec. 11, 2023 Minutes. The Commission voted and approved the motion with Lefebvre and Drouin abstaining.

NEXT MEETING: January 25, 2024

Schedule of 2024 Meetings: January 25*, 27*, Feb. 12 & 22, Mar. 11 & 28, April 8 & 25, May 13 & 23, June 10 & 27, July 8 & 25, Aug. 12 & 22, Sept. 9 & 26, Oct. 14 & 24, Nov. 11, Dec. 9, 2024.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Lefebvre.