

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

30 PAYSON HILL ROAD

RINDGE, NH 03461

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Minutes for January 14, 2019

Conservation Commission members present: David Drouin, William Preston, Richard Mellor, Al Lefebvre, Phil Simeone, Fred Rogers

Alternates in attendance: Paul McPhie, Fred Dodge, Rob Rubendall, Doreen Richards

Conservation Corps: Deni Dickler

Meeting convened at 7:00 pm

OLD BUSINESS:

- Recreation Committee – Richards reported that she had attended the Recreation Committee meeting on January 7. She indicated that the Rec Committee is moving ahead with the play scape park and have looked at a company's website design for ideas and is collecting information. The Committee plans to have a teleconference call to discuss ideas (www.naturalplay-grounds.com is the website).
- Dell donations – Richards reported she was awaiting feedback information as to whether or not the Conservation Fund would be eligible for donations from Dell for conservation efforts.
- Lead Fishing Tackle collection box update – Lefebvre reported that he had sent an email to Mike Cloutier for a meeting at the Recycling Center to identify a location for the collection box. Once that is decided, the Commission will install the box.
- Insignia update – Lefebvre/Cameron. Lefebvre reported that Cameron had obtained prices for the design and t-shirts, etc. and will report on them at a later date.
- Annett State Forest trails – Rubendall reported that he had spoken with Scott Rolff who is now in charge of this area about trails and parking. The park is now closed and no longer a part of NH Forests and Lands but is now part of NH Parks & Recreation. He inquired about the possibility for more parking at the park. Rubendall indicated that Rolff would be interested in meeting with the Commission and Drouin suggested a meeting in February or March. Rubendall will make arrangements.
- Update on key and signage – Drouin provided the Commission with new keys and key chains for conservation land properties. He also has made new/additional signs for the Tetreault Park, Merriam Hunt and Schoolhouse Park. He already put up the sign for the latter park while the others will be put up in the spring.

Lefebvre motioned and Simeone seconded to enter into a non-Public session. All Conservation Commission members were polled and approved the motion.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION per RSA 91-A:3 – REAL ESTATE

Mellor motioned and Simeone seconded to seal the Minutes of the non-Public session. Commission members were polled and all approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

- EverSource Energy Utility notification for work along power lines. Drouin reviewed the notice from EverSource concerning power line work in the coming months.
- Wildlife Habitat Presentation, “An Introduction to Improving Wildlife Habitat on Your Land”, Saturday, March 23 at 10 am – Lefebvre explained that Matt Tarr of UNH Cooperative Extension Service will come to Rindge for the presentation. A reservation has been made at the Recreation Center for that date and time. The presentation will be announced in early March in the newspaper and elsewhere.
- Mark Tieger notification for representatives concerning development at Routes 119 & 202. Drouin reviewed the notice with the Commission.
- ZBA application from Frank & Janet Battaglia, 46 Blakewell Rd at Map 43 Lot 1-23 for location of shed 8 feet from an abutter and 18 feet from Contoocook Lake
 - Mr. Battaglia explained his reasons for installing the shed near the lake but did not realize the Rindge codes did not allow a structure so close to the lake (within 50 ft.) when it was installed.
 - The Commission explained that the 50 foot requirement is part of NH DES regulations to protect water and the ZBA cannot grant relief from those regulations. Mr. Battaglia needs to apply for approval from NH Department of Environmental Services.
 - Mr. Battaglia questioned the need for the regulation since he did not plan to store any hazardous material inside. The Commission explained that a future owner of the shed could improperly use the shed to store hazardous material/liquids.
 - Mr. Battaglia mentioned that he had counted other sheds near the water on other nearby properties. The Commission explained that some of them may be “grandfathered” and had been there a number of years before the regulation came into effect or under other circumstances; some may also be improperly situated in which case the Town’s Code Enforcement Officer would be responsible for taking action along with the Board of Selectmen.
 - Drouin explained the NH DES regulations and that he needed to obtain DES approval. The Commission cannot recommend/support the exception for the shed to the ZBA. Mellor motioned and Simeone seconded that the Commission will take action on the application only when DES responds at which time the Commission will notify the ZBA of its decision.
- Cutting along 202 Way near Contoocook Conservation Complex – Preston noticed the cutting but found out it was done by a Commission member.
- 2019 Commission projects – Drouin and the Commission discussed projects for the coming year. Among the projects mentioned were trails at Schoolhouse Park, pollinator plantings at the Contoocook Marsh Complex, clearing trails near the rails-to-trails at Tetreault Park, trails at Hunt, marking trails at Contoocook Marsh and general trail work at other conservation areas.
- Conservation Corps meeting agenda for Jan 26 (11 am) and Jan 28 (at 7 pm) at Town Office- Lefebvre reported that he planned to invite Corp members to attend one of the meetings to discuss plans for the coming year and how it can be helpful.
- Intent to Cut, Map 9 Lot 13-1, Ingalls Rd/Bowers Hill Rd., David Coll – Drouin reviewed.
- David Zukowski of Pearly Pond Assoc. Mr. Zukowski presented the association’s lake treatment proposal to NH DES. Drouin mentioned that the Commission will receive notification from DES of its approval. Mr. Zukowski mentioned the need for funds for testing and has approached Franklin Pierce for support.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: for Dec. 10, 2018. Preston motioned and Richards seconded to approve the Public Minutes with minor change (including her in the list of attendees) and all approved with Simeone and Rogers abstaining. Richards motioned and Preston seconded to approve the Non-Public Minutes and all approved with Simeone and Rogers abstaining.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION EMAILS - None

CORRESPONDENCE – None

OFFICIAL NOTICES –

- NH DES File 2018-03759, Complete Forestry Notification for Georgia Wolterbeek, Map Lot 5/6 Lot 44-1, Drouin reviewed
- NH DES File 2018-0318, Deadline extension of Eric Weissberg & Kimberly Chan, Map 45 Lots 33 and 42, Drouin reviewed
- Forest Designs filing of Shoreland Permit Application with NH DES, Haskell property on Mountain Rd., Map 37 Lot 6, Drouin reviewed

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Budget Report for Nov 30, 2018 and Postage Meter Report of Nov 2018, Drouin reviewed.

NEXT MEETING: January 24, 2019

2019 Schedule of Meetings: Jan 14 & 24, Feb 11 & 28, Mar 11 & 28, April 8 & 25, May 13 & 23, June 10 & 27, July 8 & 25, Aug 12 & 22, Sept 9 & 26, Oct 14 (Columbus Day) & 24, Nov 11 (Veterans' Day), Dec 9.

Minutes recorded by Al Lefebvre.