

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

30 PAYSON HILL ROAD

RINDGE, NH 03461

Tel. (603) 899-5181 Fax (603) 899-2101 TDD 1-800-735-2964

Minutes for November 11, 2019

Conservation Commission members present: David Drouin, Joseph Desruisseaux, Al Lefebvre, Paul McPhie, Phil Simeone, Richard Mellor

Alternates in attendance: Deni Dickler, Bill Preston, Doreen Richards, Fred Dodge

Meeting convened at 7:00 pm

OLD BUSINESS

- Trail maintenance – Mellor reported that he had cleared down trees at Town Forest. He indicated that No Hunting signs need to be posted at Tetreault Park as per the deed restriction and to separate that area from the Town Forest where hunting is allowed.
- Playscape – Richards/Mellor – nothing new to report
- NHACC Conference on Nov 2 – session review. Lefebvre & Dickler reported on Spencer Meyer’s “The Case for Investing in Wildlands, Woodlands and Farming Communities” and found it very informative and a possible Rindge presentation. They also attended a session on NHDES’s coming Wetland Permit Planning tool coming in the spring or summer. It may be a good presentation for contractors and the Planning Office. Drouin attended NHDES new wetlands rules and Rick Van de Poll’s sessions on identifying wetlands. Mellor attended the second session on best practices for various NHDES issues. Preston attended the session on shoreland protection updates, a session on recognizing the value of natural assets, and a session on the benefits of beavers. McPhie attended the Chesterfield Conservation Commission’s work on creating/developing the Wantastiquet- Monadnock Trail from Brattleboro to Dublin/ Monadnock and a session on recycling and its worth as well as another session on conserving farmland which was more oriented to eastern NH.
- Schoolhouse Park and Converse Meadow gravel update – Mellor reported that Jon Flagg had spread and leveled material in the new parking area at Schoolhouse Park as well as spreading wood chips. Desruisseaux and Lefebvre reported a lot of trash along Abel Road in front of the park which will need to be picked-up. Mellor recommended an Open House at the park in the spring for Rindge residents.
- Earth Day 50th Anniversary in 2020; Climate Change Presentations – Dickler reported there was no presentation at the NHACC on climate change. The Commission suggested people to contact to locate a possible presenter.
- AI – Turtle sign update. Lefebvre reported that he spoke to Cloutier about putting up turtle signs and he said they were on order and will do put them up in the spring or sooner if weather cooperates. The Commission indicated they thought six had already been purchased in 2017 and wanted to know what happened to those. Lefebvre said he would speak with Cloutier.

NEW BUSINESS

- Schoolhouse Park survey results – Paquin. Jed Paquin presented the results of the land survey he conducted at Schoolhouse Park that marked the property boundaries. With the Com-

mission he went over the survey chart, answered questions and explained more of the park's history based on the title survey he conducted. Paquin will file the survey with the county once additional information are identified. The Commission provided Paquin with markers to be placed as appropriate to delineate the property.

- RCC Budget for FY 2020 – Drouin reviewed the current year's expenditures and 2020 budget plans in preparation for his meeting with the Board of Selectmen on November 20.
- RCC Procedures concerning NHDES Wetlands applications – Drouin & Mellor. Drouin explained that NHDES requires a Town/Conservation Commission response in 14 days from date-of-receipt with any concerns with a wetland application. In order to comply, Drouin will contact the Town Clerk to contact him immediately upon receipt of any wetlands applications. Lefebvre will also contact him if he finds any such applications in the Commission's mailbox. Drouin will draft a standard letter to use send to the Town Clerk with the Commission's concerns and need to intervene. Drouin recommends that 1-2 people be responsible to review these applications for a pass/no pass response.
- American chestnut tree, Curt Laffin Nov 4 visit – Mc Phie reported that Laffin came to Rindge to assess the trees after one year's growth and indicated he is concerned about tree size. The tree at School St has sun on it and has grown appropriately but the rest do not receive much sun and therefore there was less growth. He trimmed some trees as needed and indicated they are OK but small and under no duress.
- Envirothon Update – Mellor reported there is new leadership for the NH Envirothon that wants the program to grow. The new director will conduct training for new coordinators later in November.
- Roger's Landing Update – Mellor reported that he had planted some perennial wildflower seeds at Roger's landing. He indicated that some of the perennials are growing but some small pines need to be cut to allow for the perennials to grow.

Mellor motioned and Dickler seconded to go into Non-public session. Commissioners were polled and all approved.

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

Simeone motioned and Preston seconded to leave the Non-public session. Commission members were polled and all approved.

Mellor motioned and Preston seconded to seal the Minutes of the Non-Public meeting. Commissioners were polled and all approved.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: Oct 24, 2019 Simeone motioned and Preston seconded to approve the Public and Non-public minutes for Oct 24, 2019. The Commission voted in favor of the motion with Drouin & Dodge abstaining.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION EMAILS - None

CORRESPONDENCE

OFFICIAL NOTICES –

- NHDES Wetlands Permit Application, File No. 2019-3474, Map 22, Lot 17 East Monomonac Rd., John & Katherine Metzger by Carl Hagstrom for replacement of culvert. NH Wetlands Minimum Impact. 30" culvert. Drouin reviewed with the Commission and found no issues.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

- NHDES Shoreland Permit Application. File No. 2019-03331. Map 14 Lot 16, 30 LaChance Dr., David Hillis. This was a notice of receipt of an application by NHDES. Reviewed by Drouin with the Commission and he will contact the Town Clerk for the actual application as none was received by the Commission
- NH DES Wetlands Permit by Notification at Crowcroft Pond. Isaac Traffie. Map 7 Lot 8. Reviewed by Drouin with the Commission.
- Intent to Cut Map 5 Lot 44 on Bean Hill Rd., James K DiMazio signed by Board of Selectmen. Drouin will request that the Selectmen notify the Commission of receipt of any future Intent to Cut forms.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

NEXT MEETING: December 9, 2019

2020 Schedule of Meetings: Jan 13, 2020

Meeting adjourned at 9:30.

Minutes recorded by Al Lefebvre.