

MINUTES

Sanbornton Conservation Commission

Meeting Date and Time: Thursday, February 8th 2024 at 7:00 PM

Meeting Place: Old Town Hall, 19 Meeting House Hill Road, Sanbornton NH

Present: Chair Brad Crosby, Ray Masse (via Zoom), Dave Perry, Chris Fontenot, Don Noyes

Guests: Mark Brown, Bob Silvia

Chair Crosby motions to allow alternate Chris Fontenot to sit as a voting member to form a quorum for tonight's meeting, all approve.

Chair Crosby motions to approve the draft minutes from the 10/12/2023 and 01/11/2024 CC meetings as submitted and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Fundraising for Swain Farm Easement purchase: Don Noyes asks about what fundraising may be needed for the easement purchase. Per Chair Crosby, not much is needed, as the majority has been funded by LCHIP, NRCS, Lakes Region Land Trust (LRLT) etc, plus the \$100K allocated from the town's Land Use Fund. He can contact a few town residents who have historically helped with donations. He suggests waiting until Anna Boudreau (LRLT) can be present to discuss what else may be needed.

Old Business

Town Forest Survey/Eastman Hill Boundary: Per Chair Crosby, Brian LaRoche (not present) contacted Bailey Associates in regards to surveying the Eastman Hill boundary. Their response indicated that this would not be a simple area to survey, as most pin locations are "not set in stone" and can be difficult to find. The survey efforts would be costly and time consuming, and they would not be able to start until late spring 2024. Chair Crosby feels this could turn into a huge undertaking. Property owner Mark Brown states he is also concerned about future boundary disputes if it went up for sale. Dave suggests adjusting the trailhead location away from Mark's property. After some discussion, it was decided that moving the Trailhead and parts of the trail off/away from Mark's property would negate the need to survey at the moment. Mark is agreeable to this solution. This work can be completed by the end of June.

Chair Crosby also received a decision from DES regarding the parking lot created on Taylor Hill Road. This construction impacted a wetland and needs to be removed and restored to its original condition. The fill will be removed and hauled off-site. DES requests this be done by May 17th, weather permitting.

Dr. True Road lot: A walk along the property boundary is needed in the next few weeks to identify infringements on the lot, followed by notifying the property owners to remove the infringements. Items such as tree stands, debris, and a shed were noted on the boundary report by John Martin.

Land Donation: The 100 acres donated by Dave Adams is still being processed. Currently waiting on the land survey.

Dave asks about the possibility of purchasing equipment to help with trail maintenance. Chair Crosby states it is not in the budget to make any large purchases, and at the moment members do not mind using their own equipment.

Chris asks about contacting the NH Natural Heritage Bureau to check for rare species and important wildlife habitats on town properties. Currently, the NHHNB is only contacted when forestry or other projects are planned on the property. For land purchases, the primary party requests this information as part of the process. Chris recommends keeping an updated record so we can monitor for rare species to avoid negative impacts.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55PM. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 14th 2024

Respectfully submitted,

Jordan Tedeschi