

## MINUTES

### Sanbornton Conservation Commission

**Meeting Date and Time:** Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 7:00 PM

**Meeting Place:** Town Offices, 573 Sanborn Road, Sanbornton, N.H.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Brad Crosby at 7:00 PM

Present: Chair Brad Crosby, Dave Perry (seated as voting member), Dick Ayers, Karen Bordeau, Selectman's Representative Jim Dick

#### Minutes

Chair Brad Crosby made a motion to approve the draft minutes of 1/9. Dick Ayers seconded the motion and the motion passed, with Karen Bordeau abstaining.

#### New Business

**a. Beaver dam issue** – Resident Rickie Bauer explained that she has provided information about the Beaver Deceiver device to the BOS which would allow beaver to stay on her property without causing water issues. She does not want the beaver fatally trapped which has happened in the past and asked if the Conservation Commission would have funding available for this; the cost for each device is \$2,500. Karen stated that she will see if there are any Wildlife Control Operators that may install beaver pipes. She noted that there would be an ongoing maintenance cost for any device. Selectman Jim Dick explained that the BOS understands that there would be an ongoing maintenance cost but the fatal trapping was around \$900. Chair Crosby stated that the Commission could discuss this in the future but right now there is no issue with flooding over the road due to the beavers and so there may not even be an issue.

#### Old Business

**a. Trout in the Classroom** – Chair Crosby explained that this program is going well; he is still pursuing talking to the landowners at Weeks Brook for possibly releasing the trout into the stream with the students.

**b. Wildlife corridor mapping** – Karen has started mapping wildlife crossings in town; she provided maps to members so they can see the areas she has covered already and marked with points on GPS. She explained that she does not mark some areas where she knows there is feeding of deer such as on Cram Rd.

**c. Mission statement revisions** - Dick stated that he would still like to work on putting together a document that lists specific ways people can help with conservation; this would be in addition to the mission statement. Chair Crosby suggested one way would be through easements, leaving land to conservation in a person's will, etc. Dick suggested a forum where residents could learn more about doing that and proposed it for the fall; members were in agreement. Dave suggested also putting together a brochure about this.

Dick Ayers made a motion to remove the word "community's" from the first paragraph of the mission statement as discussed previously. Chair Crosby seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

**d. Earth Day** - The Commission agreed to use the gazebo at Meetinghouse Hill to distribute bags to residents and map out roadside trash pick-up on April 25th from 8:00am-10:00am in celebration of Earth Day. Dick suggested putting together a sheet that outlines safety tips and having a write-up in the newspaper prior to; Audry will reach out to Donna Rhodes of the Winnisquam Echo about this.

**e. Newsletter** - The Commission agreed on distributing the Fall/Winter newsletter at Town Meeting and working on a new one for May. Karen offered to do a write-up highlighting certain bird species that migrate in May, such as grouse and woodcock. Trout in the Classroom should also be highlighted; Dave suggested getting permission from the students' parents prior to using their photos in the newsletter.

**f. Land acquisition** – Chair Crosby stated that he has spoken to Nancy Mitiguy who is interested in doing a conservation easement on her property. He will invite her to a meeting to discuss with the Commission.

#### Other Business

**a. BOS update** - Selectman Dick explained that the selling of Tax Map 3/Lot 25 will be on the warrant for Town Meeting next month but where the sale proceeds go has not been discussed. This property is assessed at \$3,000. Chair Crosby made a motion for 50% of the proceeds to go to the Conservation Fund with the other half going to the General Fund. Selectman Dick seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

**b. Membership** – Sarah Fox has emailed a resignation letter to Chair Crosby and Audry. Chair Crosby made a motion to reluctantly accept her resignation. Dick Ayers seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Dick Ayers made a motion to make Dave Perry a full member. Chair Crosby seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm

Respectfully submitted, Audry Barriault