

MINUTES

Sanbornton Conservation Commission

Meeting Date and Time: Thursday, September 10th 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, Doug Sarette, Dick Ayers, Karen Bordeaux, Mary Ahlgren, Selectman Jim Dick, Ray Masse (remote)

Minutes

Mary Ahlgren made a motion to approve the draft minutes of 8/13. Chair Brad Crosby seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

a. School-Library Trail Rock Engraving – Chair Crosby has talked with a local contractor about getting a large rock to engrave for the library trail, if there are any left over from projects he will be in touch. There are also some others on Dearborn Rd which Audry will check on. Members agreed to pay for trucking and engraving for whichever rock is chosen. The Commission received \$6,000 from the recent sale of the property on Moose Run; Karen will find out if there are stipulations on what this can be used for (possibly the rock trucking and engraving).

b. Trail Maintenance Update – Dave hasn't heard back yet from Steele Hill yet but will try again after Thanksgiving. Ray printed more maps and Dave put those at the kiosk. Selectman Jim Dick noted that there is a sign on a trail only 6 inches from the ground which needs to be higher for visibility. Chair Crosby stated that he can work on more signs this winter; Dave will get a list of what signs are needed.

c. Newsletter – Ray made final edits to the newsletter which is ready for distribution. Audry will put it on the website. He also worked on getting the Conservation Commission email address which is in the newsletter; any messages that come through the website will be routed to Ray and Audry who can then forward on to all members.

d. Land Acquisition – Chair Crosby talked to Nancy Mitiguy since the last meeting about her interest in the conservation easement on her 25-acre property. He discovered that she would only need to do an easement appraisal if she wants to take a tax deduction for the sale. He noted that once you do the easement appraisal you need to close on the property within 60 days. Karen would still like to walk this property; she can join Chair Crosby as well as any other members that want to schedule that with him.

Other Business

a. Conservation Commission Membership – Karen, Ray and Dick's memberships are up for renewal. If they wish to be re-appointed they can fill out a volunteer form and submit to Town Administrator Trish Stafford. Audry has sent this to them. The membership term for Doug needs to be corrected on the website, Audry will do that.

b. FY22 Budget – Chair Crosby suggested flat-funding the Conservation Commission's budget for FY22. Ray noted that the \$500 for Community Outreach and Education has not been used yet this fiscal year but if Ray was not doing printing himself at no cost that line would be used. Chair Crosby asked if the rock engraving at the library trail could come from this line; members agreed that should qualify.

c. Joint Land Use Boards Meeting – Dick explained that he and Ray attended this meeting; he noted that the 5% setback for subdivisions was discussed. He stated that the Planning Board was excited to hear that Karen is working on the wildlife corridor mapping because this can help them in guiding applicants as to where the best location for the setback would be. The issue of lands in current use came up also, Ray suggested a newsletter entry educating the public about current use may be a good idea and members agreed. Karen also suggested an entry about wildlife corridors. Selectman Dick stated that he would like to see an inventory of parcels in current use to see if they are being posted for no hunting if they shouldn't be. Owners have the option to allow hunting and get a 100% abatement, or can take an 80% abatement but prohibit hunting.

d. Tax Map 25/Lot 12 Logging – Chair Crosby talked with the owner about this parcel and stated that it was not going to be logged and learned that the boundaries are not where the Commission thought they were, but either way they do not wish to have it logged.

e. Gravel pit proposal on Johnson Rd – Chair Crosby asked if members have any input on this proposal which was brought to the ZBA in August; members agreed they do not know enough about the project at this point to have input.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 8th at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Audry Barriault