

MINUTES  
Sanbornton Conservation Commission

Meeting Date and Time: Thursday December 9<sup>th</sup> 2021 at 7:00 PM

Meeting Place: Town Offices, 573 Sanborn Rd, Sanbornton NH

Present: Chair Brad Crosby, Dave Perry, Gail Morrison, Ray Masse, Karen Bordeau, Selectman Jim Dick

Approval of draft minutes of 11/11/21 – Chair Crosby made a motion to approve the draft minutes. Gail Morrison seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

**New Business**

**a. Discussion with Nancy Mitiguy regarding easement purchase (Tax Map 26/Lot 63)** – Nancy joined the meeting via Zoom to explain her easement offer to the Commission. She has paid for the survey, easement appraisal, and baseline study. She has already had walking trails built on the property as well. The standard appraisal came in at \$175,000 and the easement appraisal came in at \$88,000; she is offering the easement to the Commission for the purchase price of \$52,000. She will send the checklist items for closing to Chair Crosby.

The easement appraisal expires 60 days from completion so Nancy's deadline to sell the property is January 19<sup>th</sup>. In order to meet this deadline the Commission agreed to meet for the required public hearing regarding the purchase on Wednesday, December 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00. Audry will set up a Zoom meeting for Nancy to join, and send the hearing notice to the Daily Sun and post on the website and Town Office bulletin board.

Chair Crosby asked members how they feel about the offer and all agreed it was fair. Dave stated that he feels the easement would be a significant benefit to the Town for hiking trails and wildlife habitat; he also noted that Nancy has already paid for a substantial amount of work related to the easement. Chair Crosby asked Selectman Dick if it would be possible to use an attorney who may specialize in easement purchases other than the Town's attorney and Selectman Dick responded Yes. Chair Crosby made a motion to engage attorney Warren Lake for legal services related to the purchase and sales agreement for the Mitiguy easement, not to exceed \$2,500. Dave Perry seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

**Old Business**

**a. Newsletter** – Gail handed out newsletters at the Historical Society Fair and people were happy to receive them. Ray suggested possibly handing the newsletters out at the Transfer Station in the future instead of leaving them for people to take.

**b. Trail maintenance** – Dave has distributed the last of the trail maps that Ray had printed a while back so there are some in each kiosk.

**c. School-library trail** – Highway Dept Director Johnny Van Tassel has moved the boulders to the trailhead to be engraved in the spring. Chair Crosby has received a quote for engraving of the boulder from Laconia Monument for \$780. Chair Crosby made a motion to approve expending \$780 from the conservation fund for the engraving. Dave Perry seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

**d. Wildlife corridor mapping** – Karen will have the points from the Google map added to the existing corridor map she created last year. Chair Crosby suggested having residents add crossings to the map again in the spring.

**Other Business**

**a. Hill Conservation Commission email** – Ray responded to an email from the only Conservation Commission member in Hill and sent him some useful information; that group has been without members for some time. Chair Crosby suggested inviting him to a meeting so he can see how the Sanbornton Conservation Commission operates and members agreed.

**b. Marsh conservation** - Dave spoke with the gentleman interested in purchasing a marsh for conservation which was discussed at last meeting; they will be walking a property in Sanbornton together next week.

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Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm. The next meeting is the public hearing scheduled for Wednesday, December 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.

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Respectfully submitted,

Audry Barriault