

MINUTES
Sanbornton Conservation Commission

Meeting Date and Time: Thursday, August 11th 2022 at 7:00 PM

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

Present: Dick Ayers, Ray Masse, Karen Bordeau, Dave Perry, Chair Brad Crosby

Chair Brad Crosby made a motion to approve the minutes of 7/14. Ray Masse seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business

a. FY24 budget – Ray stated that he believes the budget line for Outreach and Education is the only one that may need to be changed, as any change for the Recording Secretary pay will be determined by the Selectmen; the cost for mailing out the last newsletter to residents was around \$1100. Chair Crosby stated that the cost of postage is going up and recommended adding more funds to the line and members agreed. Ray Masse made a motion to approve the FY24 budget, exclusive of the Recording Secretary's labor and associated payroll costs to be determined by the Board of Selectmen, for \$2,160. Dick Ayers seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

b. Discussion of town-owned property at Tax Map 3, Lot 17 off Hueber Dr – Chair Crosby stated that the Selectmen have asked if the Conservation Commission have concerns with selling this town-owned parcel valued at around \$65,000; members agreed that there is no benefit to holding on to it and it should be back on the tax roll. Dave Perry stated that he went to look at the property and it is quite sloped; the property is .35 acres and therefore not buildable anyway. Ray noted that the Selectmen will be looking at other parcels to sell as there is no longer a benefit to keeping them due to change in State statute, but they offer the Conservation Commission rights of first refusal.

c. Black Brook work – Chair Crosby explained that Donna Hepp would like to have a walk-through of the work that's been done on Black Brook and this is scheduled for Wednesday, September 28th from 10:30-11:30am. He noted that Huse Rd is known for being a contributor of silt washing in to Lake Winnisquam and this can be looked at the same day while members are together.

Old Business

a. Eastman Hill logging – Chair Crosby explained that he has talked to Town Forester Jon Martin about the activity that had been seen on the Eastman Hill property; Jon was flagging the old skid roads on the property. Jon will be sending a proposal for logging the property and, as discussed at previous meetings, this will be done so as not to cause any damage to existing hiking trails. Chair Crosby stated that he asked Jon if he can provide the total acreage of the properties that are being flagged since there are some discrepancies in the tax maps and he said he can do this. He was also asked about dividing the invoices so that any work done on property that's not designated as a Town Forest can come from the conservation fund and he stated that he can do this.

b. Land acquisition – Chair Crosby has spoken with Jennifer Abbott about potentially doing a conservation easement and has explained the conservation appraisal process.

c. Old Home Day – Dick stated that a lot of people stopped by the booth at Old Home Day and next year he will be sure to have a map showing conserved land.

d. Review of conserved land list and map from GRANIT – Karen was able to get a list of conserved land in Sanbornton and a map from GRANIT through UNH. She noted that a form needs to be submitted in order to get on the list and map and there are some properties missing, such as the Reed property and Mitiguy property. She stated that there should be a map showing town-owned land as one color, easement from a land trust

another color, common land another color, etc. Ray stated that there are only several pieces of common land listed, when there are many more pieces of common land in town, so maybe there are restrictions in the deed that make it so a specific piece is listed here. Dave stated that he would like to do a study of the common properties and see what needs to be added.

Other Business

a. Conservation balances – There is \$16,271 in the Conservation Fund, \$165,458.18 in the Land Use Change Tax Fund, and \$75,811 in the Forest Maintenance Fund.

b. Reed property walk – Dick suggested setting a tentative date for a walk around the property to talk about adding nature trails. He will send an email asking for members' availability

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 8th at 7:00pm.

Audry Barriault