

DRAFT MINUTES

Sanbornton Conservation Commission

Meeting Date and Time: Thursday, April 11th 2024 at 7:00 PM

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

Present: Chair Brad Crosby, Karen Boudreau, Ray Masse, Dave Perry, Chris Fontenot, Don Noyes, Brian LaRoche, Brandon Deacon

Guests: Don Berry (LRLT), Dick Gardner, Mark & Donna Ledgard

NEW BUSINESS

1. Chair Crosby motioned to approve the March 2024 meeting minutes as presented. Ray seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
2. Public Hearing: Chair Crosby opened the public hearing at 7:15pm. "Donation of \$100,000 to LRLT toward the purchase of a conservation easement on the Swain Family Farm property." The donation comes from the Land Use Change Fund. Don Berry from Lakes Region Land Trust (LRLT) presented the easement purchase and provided maps. The hearing was then opened to the public for questions and comments. Public questions asked included:

Q: Any land use restrictions?

A: This easement must allow public access, and it is up to the Swain family for any other restrictions they wish to impose. Currently the land is open for recreation and hunting/fishing, which is expected to remain with this easement.

Q: Possibility of extra parking for trail use?

A: Public parking access will be up to the Swain family

Q: Mechanisms for obtaining the remaining funds?

A: The remaining \$180,000 funds needed will be obtained from private donors, and fundraising.

Public comments were in favor of the monetary donation. Chair Crosby motioned to close the public hearing at 7:43pm, the motion passed unanimously.

3. GRANIT Data update request: The CC received an email from Peter Steckler (Principal from Northeast Conservation Services) requesting GIS data from the town of Sanbornton to update GRANIT's conservation layer. Chris has experience with GIS and will work on putting together the available data for submission.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Dr. True road property: Chair Crosby suggests walking the Dr True property next Wednesday, April 17th at 9am. Any members are welcome to join in the walk, everyone will meet at the Town Beach.
2. Trail Maintenance: Due to recent storms it is expected that some of the trails will need work to clear fallen debris. Some trails will need re-blazing. Priority work will focus on moving the trail that crosses into Mark Brown's property on Taylor Road.
3. Taylor Road parking area repairs may be delayed due to the recent rain. Chair Crosby will reach to DES requesting an extension for the repair deadline.
4. Earth Day: Chair Crosby asked for volunteers to hand out trash bags to the public at the transfer station. Don Noyes will be there anyway, and Dave volunteered to stay half the day.
5. It was recommended by CC members to consider building a wildlife viewing platform across from the town shed in memory of former CC member Dick Ayers. This was favored by guests and members alike. Brandon suggests making this a boy scout project if they show interest, or the trails subcommittee could take it on.

Meeting adjourned at 8:08pm.

Respectfully submitted

Jordan Tedeschi