

**TOWN OF WOLFEBORO  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
December 13, 2021  
APPROVED MINUTES**

*Chairman Clark opened the meeting at the Wolfeboro Public Library at 6:41 pm.*

**Members Present:** Lenore Clark, Chair, Dan Coons, Vice-Chair, Dave Senecal, BOS Representative, Brian Gifford, Nancy Byrd, Warren Muir, Members, Bob Gilbert, Sarah Silk, Jim Nupp, Alternates.

**Members Absent:** Jeff Marchand, Ed Roundy, Members.

**Staff Absent:** Lee Ann Hendrickson, Administrative Secretary.

*Chairman Clark appointed Jim Nupp, Alternate, to sit in for Jeff Marchand, Member, and appointed Sarah Silk, Alternate, to sit in for Ed Roundy, Member.*

**I. Approval of Minutes  
November 8, 2021**

**Corrections:** Page 3, Non-public Session, motion; change "Nancy Byrd – yes" to "Sarah Silk – yes"

**It was moved by Sarah Silk and seconded by Brian Gifford to approve the November 8, 2021 Conservation Commission minutes as amended. Lenore Clark, Brian Gifford, Warren Muir, Sarah Silk, Jim Nupp voted in favor. Dan Coons, Nancy Byrd abstained. The motion passed.**

**II. Discussion Items**

**a. Guest: Noreen McDonald, Cotton Valley Rail Committee**

Noreen McDonald discussed beaver activity on the causeway just beyond Mast Landing and how to resolve the issue. She reviewed options such as beaver deceivers and hog wire fencing. She asked the Commission to consider the options and cost associated with such; noting the activity is located along the causeway that abuts land owned by the Commission.

Brian Gifford asked if the beaver dam is located on the Smith River.

Noreen McDonald replied no.

Lenore Clark stated the dam is located on Goodwins Basin.

Noreen McDonald noted there is a 200' section located just before the causeway that is totally blocked due to debris from an abutting property. She stated the grant that was received will go towards cleaning out the debris from the culvert; noting a conversation will also take place with the homeowner.

Lenore Clark stated the lodge is on the shoreline of Goodwins Basin and that is why the State (Michael Weeks, Bureau of Trails) is asking the Conservation Commission for permission to trap the beavers and kill them. She stated that trapping and releasing the beavers is not an option according to Mr. Weeks. She stated she reviewed the conservation easement and noted that hunting or trapping is neither

permitted nor denied. She stated she is in favor of installing an exclusionary device for the future; noting that although she understands that it has to be done this time that she is not comfortable with trapping and killing the beavers.

Sarah Silk asked if the grant included funding for an exclusionary device.

Noreen McDonald replied no. She stated the awarded grant will address seven projects; she reviewed those projects.

**It was moved by Dan Coons and seconded by Sarah Silk to give permission to the Bureau of Trails to trap the beavers at Goodwins Basin for this one time.**

***Discussion of the motion:***

Dan Coons asked if there are any baby beavers.

Noreen McDonald stated she is not aware of any.

Nancy Byrd stated the removal of the beavers is being done for the convenience of people and is not in favor of killing the beavers. She asked if someone else could trap the beavers.

Jim Nupp stated if located on the trail then only a State approved beaver trapper can trap the beavers.

Noreen McDonald stated she believes the Bureau of Trails would pay for the trapper if the Conservation Commission would agree to trap the beavers. She noted the culvert is currently being cleared and is running.

Jim Nupp stated there is no good alternative; noting it is a huge issue and is becoming a greater issue as time goes on.

Noreen McDonald stated it is a recurring problem.

Warren Muir asked if Native Americans have treaty rights to the beavers.

Noreen McDonald stated she doesn't believe so however would research such.

Lenore Clark stated she would commit to working with Ms. McDonald to install an exclusionary device so that the Commission doesn't have to make this decision again.

**Lenore Clark, Brian Gifford, Jim Nupp voted in favor. Dan Coons, Nancy Byrd opposed. Warren Muir abstained. The motion passed (3-2-1).**

**b. 2022 Budget**

Lenore Clark stated she is meeting with Lee Gilman to look at the Goodwins Basin property to develop a plan for treatment of invasive species; noting she believes the cost for such would be under \$5,000. She stated there is a \$3,000 carry over from 2021 for Mr. Gilman's services as well however, no further treatment to Front Bay Park and the Towns Garden property is planned for 2022. She questioned whether the Commission would consider decreasing the funding request for treatment of invasive species.

After a lengthy discussion, the Commission agreed to maintain the current funding request.

Lenore Clark stated she is presenting the Commission's budget to the Budget Committee on 12/20/21.

**c. Goodwins Basin; Tree Removal**

Lenore Clark stated out of all the companies/people she has tried to contact for the removal of the tree that Bartlett Tree is the only one that has provided her a cost estimate. She stated she forwarded photographs of the tree to Lee Gilman (an arborist) who agreed the tree needs to be removed.

Warren Muir confirmed the payment would come out of the 2021 funds.

**It was moved by Warren Muir and seconded by Nancy Byrd to approve and authorize Bartlett Tree for tree removal services at Goodwins Basin in the amount of \$1200. Lenore Clark, Dan Coons, Nancy Byrd, Warren Muir, Brian Gifford, Jim Nupp voted in favor. Sarah Silk abstained. The motion passed (6-0-1).**

**d. Brown Lot Update**

Lenore Clark stated Jeff Marchand is having a logger look at the lot, however, is unaware of the status of such.

**e. Ryefield Marsh Sign Complaint**

Lenore Clark stated a complaint was received (from a long -time resident) regarding a private road sign that has been placed at the property. She stated she went to the site and took a photograph of the sign; noting the sign is located on Town property. She stated she reviewed the warrant deed and noted there is no language in the deed relative to signage. She stated she doesn't know who the sign belongs to.

Dave Senecal recommended removing the sign.

**f. Fernald Station Parking Lot**

The Commission discussed the driveway permit application process.

**g. Town Land Trails**

The Commission discussed the enhancement of trails behind Abenaki by Andrew Lester who made more extensive trails off of the existing snowshoe trails; noting a discussion of such at a recent BOS meeting in which the BOS issued a Cease & Desist on all trail building except for trails constructed by the Conservation Commission. The BOS proposed an ad hoc committee to review the issue. Selectmen Murray and Deshaies have asked Lenore Clark to escort them to the Willey Brook property to review the trails at that location. The Commission agreed that moving forward Memorandums of Understanding will be critical.

**h. Proposed Zoning Amendment – Wetlands Conservation Overlay District**

Lenore Clark stated she emailed Tavis Austin requesting clarification of footpaths v. trails.

**i. Monitoring and Boundary Marking of Town Owned Property**

The Commission scheduled the monitoring and boundary marking of the Deutsch Easement for January 11, 2022, time to be determined. The Commission postponed the monitoring and boundary marking of the second half of the Bill Rae Conservation Area until the ground is frozen.

Lenore Clark stated she would contact Erika Horsken.

**j. Wolfboro Waters**

Warren Muir reviewed State funding opportunities and projects.

III. **Other Business**

None.

IV. **Public Comment**

None.

V. **Non-Public Session**

*Dave Senecal exited the meeting at 8:10 PM.*

**It was moved by Dan Coons and seconded by Nancy Byrd to enter non-public session at 8:10 PM under (RSA 91-A:3,II(c)). Roll call vote; Lenore Clark - yes, Sarah Silk – yes, Dan Coons – yes, Brian Gifford - yes, Warren Muir – yes, Nancy Byrd – yes, Jim Nupp - yes. The motion passed (7-0).**

The Board re-entered public session at 8:40 PM.

*Chairman Clark stated the nonpublic session minutes of December 13, 2021 were sealed by a two-thirds vote as required by law.*

VI. **Dredge & Fill Applications**

Harold & Randall Rogers  
19 Worcester Island Road, Lake Winnepesaukee  
Tax Map #259-2  
Standard Dredge & Fill

The applicant proposes to modify an existing boatslip within an existing boathouse, provide for a 6'x40' seasonal aluminum hinged pier adjacent to an existing beach; to be anchored to a 7'x2' concrete anchoring block at the shoreline.

***The Wolfeboro Conservation Commission noted no objection to the Harold and Randall Rogers Standard Dredge & Fill application, Tax Map #259-2, as proposed.***

VII. **Adjournment**

**It was moved by Sarah Silk and seconded by Nancy Byrd to adjourn the December 13, 2021 Conservation Commission meeting. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.**

*There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 8:44 PM.*

Respectfully Submitted,

*Lee Ann Hendrickson*

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