

**TOWN OF WOLFEBORO  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
October 21, 2019  
MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Lenore Clark, Chairman, Ed Roundy, Art Slocum, Brian Gifford, Warren Muir, Members, Nancy Byrd, Alternate.

**Members Absent:** Dan Coons, Vice-Chairman, Dave Senecal, Selectmen's Representative, Jeff Marchand, Member, Sarah Silk, Alternate.

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

*Chairman Clark opened the meeting at 6:39 PM at the Town Hall Annex Conference Room.  
Chairman Clark appointed Nancy Byrd, Alternate, to sit in for Jeff Marchand, Member.*

**I. Consideration of Minutes  
September 9, 2019 Minutes**

***It was moved by Brian Gifford and seconded by Ed Roundy to approve the September 9, 2019 Wolfeboro Conservation Commission minutes as submitted. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.***

**Dredge & Fill Minutes  
September 9, 2019**

***It was moved by Art Slocum and seconded by Nancy Byrd to approve the September 9, 2019 Wolfeboro Conservation Commission Dredge & Fill minutes as submitted. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.***

**September 19, 2019**

***It was moved by Ed Roundy and seconded by Brian Gifford to approve the September 19, 2019 Wolfeboro Conservation Commission Dredge & Fill minutes as submitted. Lenore Clark, Ed Roundy, Brian Gifford, Warren Muir, Nancy Byrd voted in favor. Art Slocum abstained. The motion passed.***

**September 30, 2019**

***It was moved by Art Slocum and seconded by Warren Muir to approve the September 30, 2019 Wolfeboro Conservation Commission minutes as submitted. Lenore Clark, Art Slocum, Ed Roundy, Warren Muir, Nancy Byrd voted in favor. Brian Gifford abstained. The motion passed.***

**II. Discussion Items  
a. **Wolfeboro Single Track**  
The Commission tabled such.**

**b. Trask Mountain**

Lenore Clark stated the Commission's 9/9/19 minutes reflect that the Commission agreed to table further discussion of Wolfeboro Single Track's involvement with regard to constructing the bridges on the trail until receipt of a cost estimate for materials and to find out whether personal liability insurance is required by the Town. However, she stated Dan Coons has given Wolfeboro Single Track permission to construct the bridges; noting such has been completed.

Nancy Byrd noted there is heavy blazing on the property.

Warren Muir stated he walked Front Bay Park and Heath Brook; noting that any trails constructed in the future should be constructed similar to Front Bay Park. He stated Heath trail is tough terrain for walking; noting there were holes under the leaves and rocks in the pathway.

Art Slocum stated that if the trail is open to the public it needs to be safe.

Lenore Clark stated Dan Coons would like to order trail markers and requested a motion relative to such; noting she does not have a cost estimate for such.

**It was moved by Brian Gifford and seconded by Nancy Byrd to authorize Dan Coons to purchase trail markers, cost not to exceed \$400.00. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.**

**c. Front Bay Park Invasive Species Management**

Ed Roundy stated the property needs attention and requested such be addressed next year.

**d. Pleasant Mountain Project**

Lenore Clark stated Lakes Region Conservation Trust (LRCT) contacted Dan Coons regarding land they are purchasing within the Beach Pond watershed (headwaters for Wolfeboro's water supply). She stated the majority of the land (approximately 129 acres) is located in Tuftonboro with about one acre or less located in Wolfeboro. She stated LRCT is asking for the Town to contribute funds toward the purchase of the property; noting the Commission is authorized to contribute to the purchase of property located in another town (RSA 36:A, Optional Powers). She stated if the Commission votes to contribute funds the BOS would have to vote on such and a warrant article would be required.

Art Slocum stated the Land Bank, Dan Coons and Lakes Region Conservation Trust walked the property and hiked to the summit; noting the property is deeply rutted.

Warren Muir asked how much LRCT is asking the Commission to contribute.

Lenore Clark stated she believes \$5,000.

Art Slocum stated if the LRCT is purchasing the property then responsibility falls to them.

Warren Muir questioned the total cost of the purchase and the portion of the Town's acreage.

The Commission agreed to table further discussion of such until receipt of the following information;

- Acreage of land located in Wolfeboro
- Acreage of land located in Tuftonboro

- Total purchase price
- LRCT's expectation of the Commission's contribution toward the purchase
- Is a warrant article required if the Commission provides a contribution relative to the acreage located in Wolfeboro

**e. Deutsch Easement Violation**

Lenore Clark stated the easement is located on both sides of the road (Haines Hill Road); noting 40 acres is located one side of the road and 80 acres on the other side of the road. She stated the current owner of the property told the Town of Wolfeboro they could dump their left over fill on the property; noting such violates the easement. She stated she spoke with Adam Tasker, Town of Wolfeboro, regarding such; noting Mr. Tasker ensured the property will be cleaned up.

**f. Goodwins Basin Shrub Cutting & American Museum of Natural History**

Lenore Clark stated the Commission received a request from the American Museum of Natural History requesting permission to carry out a natural history investigation on the speckled alder that is located on the Goodwins Basin property. She stated the speckled alder is the host plant for two insects that the research associates have studied. She stated the investigation would include observing and collecting alder spittlebugs and flies that live in the spittles of the immature stages of the spittlebugs. She stated a preliminary survey of the site in spring of 2020 would be conducted to determine if the insects in question are present in numbers sufficient to support the research.

It was the consensus of the Commission to allow the American Museum of Natural History to perform an investigation on the speckled alder located at the Goodwins Basin property.

Lenore Clark stated she would contact the organization and inform them of the Commission's decision.

Brian Gifford stated Aaron Stirt revised his cost estimate to cut shrubs at the Goodwins Basin property, excluding the speckled alder. He noted the cost for such is \$350.

**It was moved by Art Slocum and seconded by Nancy Byrd to contract Aaron Stirt to cut shrubs at the Goodwins Basin property, cost not to exceed \$350.00. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.**

**g. Land Donation; Carrier Parcel - Tax Map #187-28**

The Commission reviewed the information provided by Staff relative to the liens against the property by the Town (2017: \$573.30 and 2018: 1,170.36); the liens noted for 2017 and 2018 do not include any accumulated interest from the date of the lien to present.

Staff stated there were no liens against the property by the Port Wedeln Association despite the report that the Association had placed a lien on the property for nonpayment of Association dues (approximately \$3,000).

The Commission discussed the acquisition of the property and agreed to allow the Town to take the parcel through its normal process for nonpayment of taxes rather than incurring additional costs to acquire the property due to potential legal liability and complexity of the acquisition. If the Town takes ownership of the parcel then the Commission could entertain a request to conserve the property.

**It was moved by Art Slocum and seconded by Brian Gifford to not accept the land donation of Tax Map 187-28 due to the complexity and potential legal liabilities associated with the acquisition of such. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.**

**h. McBride Property Monitoring**

Lenore Clark stated she, Dan Coons and Don McBride walked the property; noting such is not well marked. She stated there were no violations and would send the monitoring report to LRCT and OEP. She noted that Don McBride stated he may be looking to sell his interest. She stated bittersweet is taking over the entrance to the pathway.

**i. Payment of Invoices**

**NH Association of Conservation Commissions**

Staff noted the invoice received is for the Commission's 2020 membership dues.

**It was moved by Warren Muir and seconded by Nancy Byrd to submit payment to the NH Association of Conservation Commissions for 2020 membership dues in the amount of \$600. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.**

**Scott Ducharme**

Staff stated the Commission received an invoice from Scott Ducharme in the amount of \$945 for three loads of gravel delivered to Meadow Lane (Ryefield Marsh/Ellie's Woodland Walk). She asked if any of the Commission members knew of the expense and questioned who authorized such.

Lenore Clark stated Dan Coons had reported to her that the logging at the property was almost complete.

The Commission discussed tabling authorization to pay the invoice until the Commission receives further information regarding such however, agreed to authorize the payment and incorporate into the bylaws the ability of the chair and/or vice-chair to execute/authorize interim decisions/discretionary spending up to a certain dollar amount. The Commission speculated there may have been a need for gravel on Meadow Lane to allow for the logging equipment to access the property.

**It was moved by Art Slocum and seconded by Brian Gifford to submit payment to Scott Ducharme in the amount of \$945. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.**

**j. Cyanobacteria Task Force**

Warren Muir stated the reporting protocol appeared to work well this past summer. He stated the website Wolfeboro Waters is being developed; noting such will be integrated with the Town's website. He stated he is unaware of the status of the NH Wetlands Bureau application for the Partridge Drive BMP.

**III. Other Business**

**Website**

Warren Muir stated nowhere on the website shows a listing of conservation easements and properties. He questioned whether an AmeriCorps volunteer could develop a maintenance plan and recommended the Commission look into the process of contracting an AmeriCorps volunteer.

#### **Beaver Trapping at Ellie's Woodland Walk**

Lenore Clark stated she received an email requesting to trap beaver at Ellie's Woodland Walk.

Art Slocum stated the Commission has denied the last two requests regarding such.

The Commission further discussed the request and agreed to deny the request.

#### **Bill Rae Conservation Area**

Nancy Byrd requested the Commission pick up the small trash at the Bill Rae Conservation Area and identify the other areas that special equipment is needed to remove the debris. She stated she would contact Jeff Marchand regarding such.

#### **IV. Correspondence**

The Commission received the following correspondence; LIFE Ministries Food Pantry Garden 2019 Report, Pleasant Valley Road Project Update and NHDES correspondence.

#### **V. Non-Public Session**

N/A

**It was moved by Warren Muir and seconded by Art Slocum to adjourn the October 21, 2019 Conservation Commission meeting. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.**

*There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 8:27 PM.*

Respectfully Submitted,

*Lee Ann Hendrickson*

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