

**TOWN OF WOLFEBORO
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
September 12, 2022
APPROVED MINUTES**

Chairman Clark opened the meeting at the Wolfeboro Public Library at 6:31 pm.

Members Present: Lenore Clark, Chair, Dan Coons, Vice-Chair (arrived at 6:39 pm), Dave Senecal, BOS Representative, Jeff Marchand, Brian Gifford, Jim Nupp, Brenda Jorett, Warren Muir, Members, Bob Gilbert, Peter Foley, Sarah Silk, Alternates.

Chairman Clark appointed Sarah Silk, Alternate, to sit in for Dan Coons, Member.

I. Approval of Minutes

April 11, 2022 Nonpublic Minutes

It was moved by Brenda Jorett and seconded by Sarah Silk to approve the April 11, 2022 Conservation Commission nonpublic minutes as submitted. Roll call vote: Brenda Jorett - yes, Sarah Silk - yes, Lenore Clark - yes, Brian Gifford - yes, Warren Muir – yes, Dave Senecal - abstain, Jeff Marchand - abstain, Jim Nupp – abstain. The motion passed (5-0-3).

It was moved by Brenda Jorett and seconded by Sarah Silk to seal the April 11, 2022 Conservation Commission nonpublic minutes. Roll call vote: Brenda Jorett - yes, Sarah Silk - yes, Lenore Clark - yes, Brian Gifford - yes, Warren Muir – yes, Dave Senecal - abstain, Jeff Marchand - abstain, Jim Nupp – yes. The motion passed (6-0-2).

July 11, 2022 Nonpublic Minutes

It was moved by Jeff Marchand and seconded by Brenda Jorett to approve the July 11, 2022 Conservation Commission nonpublic minutes as submitted. Roll call vote: Brenda Jorett - yes, Sarah Silk - abstain, Lenore Clark - yes, Brian Gifford - yes, Warren Muir – yes, Dave Senecal - abstain, Jeff Marchand - yes, Jim Nupp – yes. The motion passed (6-0-2).

It was moved by Brenda Jorett and seconded by Jeff Marchand to seal the July 11, 2022 Conservation Commission nonpublic minutes. Roll call vote: Brenda Jorett - yes, Sarah Silk - yes, Lenore Clark - yes, Brian Gifford - yes, Warren Muir – yes, Dave Senecal - abstain, Jeff Marchand - yes, Jim Nupp – yes. The motion passed (7-0-1).

August 8, 2022 Nonpublic Minutes

It was moved by Brenda Jorett and seconded by Jim Nupp to approve the August 8, 2022 Conservation Commission nonpublic minutes as submitted. Roll call vote: Brenda Jorett - yes, Sarah Silk - yes, Lenore Clark - yes, Brian Gifford - yes, Warren Muir – yes, Dave Senecal - abstain, Jeff Marchand - abstain, Jim Nupp – yes. The motion passed (6-0-2).

Dan Coons arrived at 6:39 pm.

It was moved by Dan Coons and seconded by Jim Nupp to seal the August 8, 2022 Conservation Commission nonpublic minutes. Roll call vote: Brenda Jorett - yes, Dan Coons - yes, Lenore Clark - yes, Brian Gifford - yes, Warren Muir – yes, Dave Senecal - abstain, Jeff Marchand - abstain, Jim Nupp – yes. The motion passed (6-0-2).

August 8, 2022

Correction: Page 3, WSA, 2nd bullet; switch with permitted uses

It was moved by Warren Muir and seconded by Brenda Jorett to approve the August 8, 2022 Conservation Commission minutes as amended. Lenore Clark, Dan Coons, Warren Muir, Brenda Jorett, Jim Nupp, Brian Gifford voted in favor. Jeff Marchand, Dave Senecal abstained. The motion passed.

II. Discussion Items

a. Wolfeboro Snowmobile Club; Guest Tom Taylor

Tom Taylor reviewed the plans to connect a snowmobile trail system from Wolfeboro to Tuftonboro and requested permission to access the abutting property (Krause) of the Town's property at Fernald Crossing (TM #133-27). He stated the Club has permission from Wolfeboro landowners to connect the trail in Tuftonboro (and reviewed the specific properties included on the trail system on the GIS map). He stated there would not be a need to groom the trail on the Town owned property.

Jim Nupp asked if the Club envisions snowmobilers accessing the trail from and parking snowmobile trailers at Fernald Station.

Tom Taylor replied no.

Jim Nupp noted that plowing out the existing area at Fernald Station is difficult and foresees the same issue with the overflow parking area if it had to be plowed.

Lenore Clark confirmed that the overflow parking area would not interfere with the proposal. She asked if the Club is in contact with NH Bureau of Trails.

Tom Taylor replied yes, Mike Weeks. He stated the State is looking to create a trail to Polly's Crossing in Ossipee as well.

Jeff Marchand questioned the timeline for the project.

Tom Taylor replied 2023.

Jeff Marchand questioned the width of the trail.

Tom Taylor replied 10' total.

Jeff Marchand stated that if the proposal is workable he would recommend accessing the trail behind the north gable end of the station; noting that east/west along the road front is limited.

Dave Senecal recommended the Commission stake the parking lot and work with the Club on access.

The Commission agreed to conceptually support the proposal.

b. Beaver Dam at Nineteen Mile Brook (RIB site)

Lenore Clark read excerpts from the July 7, 2022 Headwaters Hydrology report regarding the dam; noting the report was previously forwarded to the Commission. She stated the area is now flooded restated the area is flooded and newly planted trees/saplings have been eaten. She stated Dave Ford has scheduled a site walk for September 14th at 1 pm to review the matter and discuss a resolution to the issue.

Sarah Silk asked if NHDES have reviewed and commented on the matter.

Lenore Clark stated she would ask Mr. Ford such and update the Commission.

c. Fernald Station/Willey Brook Conservation Area

Parking Annex

No report.

Jim Nupp stated he observed people parking on the unimproved area that the Commission is considering for a parking area.

Wetland Crossing

No report.

Wolfeboro Singletrack Alliance QR Code & Map

Lenore Clark reviewed the following proposed language for the map;

Welcome to Willey Brook Conservation Area Trails

The Willey Brook Conservation Area is owned by the Town of Wolfeboro and managed by the Wolfeboro Conservation Commission. Originally conceived in 2014, trail construction began in winter 2015/2016. As of 2022, over six miles of multi-use singletrack trails have been built and are maintained for year-round use in partnership with Wolfeboro Singletrack Alliance.

This 53-acre property drains into Lakes Wentworth and Crescent via Willey Brook. Maintaining the integrity of the land is vital to maintaining good water quality. Staying on the trails minimizes erosion.

There are no trash cans on the property. Please plan ahead to pack in/pack out.

Thank you, and enjoy the trails!

The Commission reviewed the above noted language and agreed to the following changes;

- Remove the word "please"
- Add "conservation" before "land" in the 2nd paragraph: "Maintaining the integrity of the conservation land..."
- Combine last two sentences in the 2nd paragraph and add "Because," delete "please," capitalize "plan ahead," switch "pack" to "carry": "Because there are no trash cans on the property, PLAN AHEAD to carry in/carry out." (Jeff to research whether there is an icon to indicate such, for e.g. used at campgrounds/Forest Service land/etc.)
- add "...to the Wolfeboro Singletrack Alliance" either above or below to code, so people understand who they're donating to.
- Title: Change to 1st line, "Welcome to the Fernald Station Trails"; 2nd line, "at Willey Brook Conservation Area" (with smaller font)
- Make the colors darker/more bold to denote the trails, and lighter/thinner for the brook and 109A, so that the trails jump out at the reader more than the other features. Consider changing the brook color to black, or at least a different shade of blue than the trails.
- Change the language above the QR Code to read "Enjoy these trails? Please consider donating to Wolfeboro Singletrack Alliance."

d. Tax Map #37-7 & 37-8

Right-of-Way Easement / Electric Easement

Lenore Clark stated a Right-Of-Way (ROW) held by NH Electric Cooperative runs through part of the properties and NHEC would be requesting permission from the Commission to utilize and perhaps amend the ROW to provide electricity to a new home being built across the street. She spoke with Jim Cowles regarding such; noting a Right-of-Way Easement exists and was written in 1940 however, the easement was not recorded (it is a prescriptive easement). She stated the language is vague in the original easement and it is unclear if the existing easement extends to the street. She noted the conservation easement for the properties has not yet been recorded and stated Attorney Cowles would be amending such to insert the Right-of-Way easement language into such and the deed. She stated clearing is needed and NHEC reported that a typical (ROW) clearing for a new primary line entails total tree clearing from ground to sky; noting that

in this case it would be a 30' ROW (15' each side of the pole line/wire) which means any and all trees or branches that are within that newly established ROW would be removed. She stated she contacted LCHIP and LRCT regarding such since they are stakeholders however has not yet heard back.

Warren Muir questioned if there would be less disturbance if the line was buried.

Jeff Marchand questioned the timber value and growth.

Dan Coons stated there is not old growth in that area.

Jim Nupp expressed concern regarding the use of heavy equipment to clear the area.

Jeff Marchand questioned whether the stumps would be removed.

Lenore Clark stated she did not know.

Dan Coons stated the existing Right-of-Way is stumped.

Jeff Marchand stated he feels the request is reasonable. He stated he would like a response from NHEC regarding stumping and what will be done with the timber. He questioned whether the area is flagged.

Dan Coons stated the area was not flagged at the time the environmental assessment was being done.

Sarah Silk expressed concern regarding slash and the clean up of such.

Dan Coons stated the Commission could approve the request with contingencies.

The Commission agreed to request NHEC to respond to questions related to stumping, timber and the removal of slash and noted that if a response has been provided by the September 30th Conservation Commission meeting that the Commission would further discuss the matter at that time.

e. Nonpublic Meeting

N/A

f. Wolfeboro Waters

Warren Muir stated there were several blooms this summer in NH that resulted in advisories and other observations of cyanobacteria that did not result in an advisory. He reviewed the proposed watershed environmental study for Wolfeboro Bay and surrounding areas; noting that in anticipation of the study sampling was expanded this year. He noted a concern for the development of specific sites that threaten water quality and questioned whether shoreland protection permits are being followed; noting Wolfeboro Waters will be exploring such (issues of compliance have been questioned by a number of people).

Jeff Marchand stated that complaints/concerns should be addressed to the State.

III. Other Business

Property Monitoring Schedule

The Commission scheduled the monitoring of the Mink Brook properties for 9/19/22, 9 am (members will meet at the Town Hall and drive to the site).

NHACC Annual Meeting

NHACC Annual Meeting is scheduled for November 5, 2022 at Pembroke Academy.

Towns Garden

Lenore Clark stated she received an email from Sue Poirier who stated there appeared to be a “squatter” on the property (observed was a sleeping bag hanging from a tree, heavy jacket hanging nearby, large tarp on the ground, two pieces of rope). She stated she would speak to the Police Department about such. She stated the educational program with the Kingswood Youth Center that Sue had overseen this past summer did not work out and that program would not be continued however, the Thai Scholars from Brewster were a huge help.

Invasive Species

Sarah Silk stated that people have been asking why the Commission has not addressed the proliferation of Bamboo at the 7-11 property.

Lenore Clark stated the Town (Department of Public Works) has contracted with Lee Gilman to address Town owned sites.

Strategic Planning Session

The Commission scheduled such for September 30, 2022, 10:15 am at the Wolfeboro Public Library.

Conserving Your Land

Jeff Marchand requested permission to forward a copy of Conserving Your Land to the North Wolfeboro Association to make available to members of the Association.

The Commission stated no objection to such.

IV. Public Comment

None.

V. NH DES Dredge & Fill Application Review

None.

VI. Adjournment

It was moved by Jim Nupp and seconded by Brenda Jorett to adjourn the September 12, 2022 Conservation Commission meeting. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 8:46 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lee Ann Hendrickson

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