

**TOWN OF WOLFEBORO
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
January 11, 2021
APPROVED MINUTES**

Chairman Clark opened the virtual meeting at 6:34 pm.

Lenore Clark read the following:

Due to the COVID-19/Coronavirus crisis and in accordance with Governor Sununu's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order #2020-04, this Board is authorized to meet electronically. In accordance with RSA 91-A: 2, III, the Committee has 7 members joining the meeting remotely, which a public body has the authorization to allow. At this time I would like to take a roll-call vote of ALL members present. For those participating virtually, please indicate your location and if you have any other individuals present in the room with you.

Members Present: Roll call: Lenore Clark – yes (acknowledged there is no one present with her), Chair, Dan Coons – yes (acknowledged there is no one present with him), Vice-Chair, Warren Muir – yes (acknowledged there is no one present with him) – entered meeting at 6:58 PM, Jeff Marchand – yes (acknowledged there is no one present with him), Brian Gifford – yes (acknowledged there is no one present with him), Members, Nancy Byrd – yes (acknowledged there is no one present with her), Alternate, Sarah Silk – yes (acknowledged there is no one present with her), Alternate.

Votes taken during this meeting will be via roll call vote for ALL members.

In accordance with Emergency Order #12, for members of the public, this is to confirm that we are:

1. Providing public access to the meeting by telephone, with additional access possibilities by video or other electronic means through GoToMeeting. All members of the public and Board have the ability to communicate contemporaneously during this meeting through the GoToMeeting platform, and the public has access to contemporaneously listen and, if necessary, participate in this meeting through dialing the following phone #+1 (646) 749-3122 followed by the audio access code 870-687-373, or by video following the directions on the Town of Wolfeboro Website posted on the home page under the Virtual Town Meeting Login Information page.
2. Providing public notice of the necessary information for accessing the meeting; we previously gave notice to the public of how to access the meeting in-person or using GoToMeeting and in, and instructions are provided on the Town of Wolfeboro website at wolfeboronh.us on the Virtual Town Meeting Login Information page.
3. Providing a mechanism for the public to alert the public body during the meeting if there are problems with access; if anybody has a problem accessing the meeting via phone or computer, please immediately call 603-486-2692 OR email Hendrickson.leeann@gmail.com. In the event that the public is unable to access the meeting, we will adjourn the meeting and have it rescheduled at that time.

Members Absent: Ed Roundy, Art Slocum, Members, Dave Senecal, BOS Representative.

Staff Present: Lee Ann Hendrickson, Administrative Secretary.

Chairman Clark appointed Nancy Byrd, Alternate, to sit in for Ed Roundy, Member and appointed Sarah Silk, Alternate, to sit in for Art Slocum.

GUESTS: Doug and Brenda Breskin (stated they are interested in the Conservation Commission and thought they would attend the meeting).

I. Discussion Items

a. Acquisition of Tax Map 37-7 & 37-8

Lenore Clark stated the closing for the above noted parcels is scheduled for January 15, 2021. She questioned the acceptance of the Land Bank's contribution toward the acquisition.

Staff stated the gift would be required to be accepted by the BOS and reviewed the process for such.

b. Willey Brook - Trail Construction (new 1-mile)

Dan Coons stated he has flagged both the wetlands closest to the road and that Peter Goodwin would be mapping the east side of the property; noting Andrew Lester would be laying out the trails and providing a map for the west side of the property relative to the remaining one mile of trail. He stated Mr. Lester has not submitted a building permit or construction details; noting such would be submitted to the Code Enforcement Officer. He stated there has been some confusion regarding the trail names and has spoken to Andrew Ingram about changing some of the names. He stated the Boy Scouts have marked the trees and recommended color coordinating the tree markings with the trail mapping.

c. Invasive Species Management Program

Lenore Clark informed the Commission that the Budget Committee did not remove the funding request (operating budget) for such. She stated the Commission received an invoice from Lee Gilman Associates in the amount of \$4200 for work at the Towns Garden and Front Bay properties.

It was moved by Dan Coons and seconded by Jeff Marchand to remit payment to Lee Gilman Associates in the amount of \$4200 (Step 1 of the Towns Garden and Front Bay properties invasive species management program); invoice to be paid from the Land Conservation Fund. Roll call vote: Lenore Clark - yes, Nancy Byrd - yes, Brian Gifford - yes, Jeff Marchand - yes, Dan Coons - yes, Sarah Silk - yes. The motion passed (6-0).

****Warren Muir entered the meeting at 6:58 pm.*

The Commission discussed approving the remainder of the contract in the amount of \$8400 submitted by Mr. Gilman and agreed to approve the remainder of the contract contingent upon Town Meeting vote (specifically the vote on the operating budget warrant article).

Lenore Clark stated she would contact Mr. Gilman regarding the Commission's decision.

d. Master Plan Input

Lenore Clark stated Warren Muir has volunteered to be the liaison between the Commission and the Planning Board with regard to the implementation of the Master Plan.

Warren Muir reviewed the Master Plan recommendations rating spreadsheet; noting the Planning Board has asked the Commission to identify their role in the implementation of the Master Plan.

The Commission reviewed the spreadsheet and identified goals and objectives the Commission would be responsible and discussed the prioritization of such. The Commission discussed hiring a third party to monitor existing conservation easements annually and agreed to further discuss the matter in the future. The Commission also discussed increasing its membership, subcommittees and attendance at Technical Review Committee meetings.

e. Towns Garden – Hunting Stand

Lenore Clark stated the hunting stand is still at the Towns Garden property.

Jeff Marchand stated he called NH Fish & Game; noting his comment that a name has to be on the deer stand was incorrect. He stated he spoke to a conservation officer who informed him that if there is public or private land that is not posted and a person puts up a stand on a tree and doesn't damage the tree, such is permitted. He stated many of the complaints received by the conservation officer about stands turn out to be stands used by photographers and not hunters. He stated a stand can be within 300' of a road. He stated the officer recommended placing a laminated note on the stand requesting the owner contact the Commission.

Sarah Silk confirmed a person doesn't need permission to place a stand on another's property.

Jeff Marchand stated the conservation officer explained to him that in NH open land (not posted), private or public, a tree stand can legally be placed on a property if it is not invasive to the tree.

The Commission discussed posting Town properties and recommended such be further discussed at a future meeting.

It was moved by Jeff Marchand and seconded by Brian Gifford to table discussion of posting Town properties to March 8, 2021. Roll call vote: Lenore Clark - yes, Nancy Byrd – yes, Brian Gifford – yes, Jeff Marchand – yes, Dan Coons – yes, Warren Muir – yes, Sarah Silk - yes. The motion passed (7-0).

f. Bill Rae Conservation Area & Front Bay Park Encroachments

Lenore Clark stated there are canoes and boats being stored on the properties. She stated she sent a letter to an abutter of the Front Bay parcel and confirmed that the boat is not theirs however, the abutter believes it is owned by John Struble; noting that it has been there for ten years and believes it has been abandoned.

Dan Coons stated he could email John Struble. He stated there is a row boat and canoe at the Bill Rae Conservation Area.

Lenore Clark asked if the Commission would like to table such until ice out.

Dan Coons stated fishing season begins April 1st and recommends addressing the issue prior to such.

Sarah Silk asked if the Sargent's Pond Association would know anything.

Dan Coons asked Ms. Silk to look into such.

g. Wolfboro Waters

Warren Muir stated the 2020 analytical results have been delayed due to the pandemic.

II. Other Business

Drew Lot Boundary Marking

Dan Coons stated he and Dan Stepanauskas walked the Drew lot boundaries on January 8th and marked one of the boundaries however, the other three boundaries had very little available to do a precise marking. He stated it was fairly clear what the Town property boundaries are because the abutting properties were heavily cut on two sides of the property. He recommended the Commission complete the marking process and recommended a tour of the property. He stated they observed active wildlife use of the property.

Jeff Marchand stated his neighbor marked their boundary with metal markers and questioned whether the Commission could do such.

The Commission agreed to schedule a walk of the property in the spring.

It was moved by Dan Coons and seconded by Sarah Silk to adjourn the January 11, 2021 Conservation Commission meeting. Roll call vote: Lenore Clark - yes, Nancy Byrd – yes, Brian Gifford – yes, Jeff Marchand – yes, Dan Coons – yes, Warren Muir – yes, Sarah Silk - yes. The motion passed (7-0).

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 8:53 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lee Ann Hendrickson

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