

Town of New Hampton Conservation Commission Minutes

New Hampton Town Office
Upstairs Meeting Room, 6 Pinnacle Hill Rd.
November 13, 2017

Commission members present: R. Leroux, G. DuBois, D. Moore (Chair), R. Pollock, P. Schlesinger, T. Simpson.

Absent: B. Rolfe gone to Florida for winter.

Guests: Eli and Tom Lopez, BSA, Scout Troop from Plymouth, NH

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm

- 1) Minutes from Oct. 9th and Oct. 30th special meeting were reviewed and approved.
- 2) Eli Lopez (Eagle Scout candidate) and his father Tom Lopez discussed their work on the Kelly Drake trail project and the construction of benches and a bridge. Commission members suggested that the benches should be stored until spring and then built on the sites selected. Mr. DuBois will meet with Tom and Eli on Wed. to look at further work needed on the trail and the location of benches and bridge. A warm thank you was expressed to Eli for his work thus far.
- 3) Update on Kelly Drake: DuBois reported that Mike Maines will begin work on Wed. 11/15 to remove brush piles around cellar holes. An excavator has been rented for one day. Mr. Maines will work within the allotted sum of \$809 that the Commission approved to remove brush piles and brush hog around cellar holes. Major work on the trail system has been completed. Volunteer Steve Zimmer will map, GPS trail system and send coordinates to DuBois. Volunteer Fran Maineri will construct trail signs.
- 4) Pollock reported that Kent Brown will mark the boundary of the Glines Memorial Forest. Leroux will provide official Conservation Commission markers to Mr. Brown to place at 100 ft. intervals along the boundary line.
- 5) Review of conservation easement monitoring:
 - a) Moore: will be conducting monitoring of CBR Trust property in the near future.
 - b) Leroux: Hope-Swain monitoring was completed on 9/18/17-no infringements or violations of easement; Merrill Easement- no infringements or violations of easement. Both properties in compliance.
 - c) DuBois- Dixon Hill- property located within Scribner State Forest; beautiful woods with no infringements or violations of easement. Property in compliance.

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(Conservation Commission, Nov. 13, 2017, cont.)

- 6) Chairman Moore distributed the Open Space Plan for the Town of New Hampton, prepared by Mike Izard of the Lakes Region Planning Commission. The Plan was also distributed to the Town Select Board and the Planning Board to be included into the New Hampton Master Plan. Commission voted to place the plan on the Town website.
- 7) On Nov. 4, commissioners Leroux, DuBois and Chairman Moore attended the 2017 Annual Conference of the NH Association of Conservation Commissions. They shared important information they learned in attending a variety of workshops that were relevant to the mission and goals of the New Hampton Conservation Commission.
- 8) Chairman Moore led a discussion regarding the creation of a Conservation Land Maintenance Trust Fund. The trust fund is made possible by Title III, Chap. 31, Powers and Duties of Towns, Trust Funds and was suggested by Town Supervisor Barbara Lucas as a way to provide funding for the maintenance and upkeep of conservation lands (trails, roads, parking areas and site management). Several questions were raised by commission members and Chairmen Moore will discuss further with Supervisor Lucas.
- 9) Initial proposal for development of parking area on Winona Road for Snake River Conservation Area by Right Angle Engineering was reviewed. Considerable discussion followed as to the feasibility of a parking area and future plans for a trail in the area. RAE would address initial stages for parking. Commission voted to approve funding for the proposal and send along to the Select Board for their review.
- 10) Annual Planning Session schedule for Jan. 13, 2017, 9:00-1:00.
- 11) Chairman Moore informed Commission members he will resign from the Board in May. Members will need to consider a current member of the Commission to succeed Moore as Chair.
- 12) Commission members need to make concerted effort to recruit new members for the Commission.

Meeting Adjourned 9:26 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gordon DuBois, Secretary