

# Town of New Hampton Conservation Commission Minutes

New Hampton Town Office  
Upstairs Meeting Room, 6 Pinnacle Hill Rd.  
December 12, 2016

Commission members present: R. Leroux, G. DuBois, D. Moore (Chair), R. Pollock, Pat Schlesinger.  
Commission members not present: B. Rolfe.

Meeting called to order by Chairman Moore at 7:14 p.m.

Minutes from November 14 meeting approved without discussion or objection

**Update on Vezina easement:** Chairman Moore reviewed extensive documentation dating back to 1995 from realtors, property owners, NHDEC, town officials and New Hampton Conservation Commission regarding the legality of the easement. It does not appear town officials, nor the Conservation Commission accepted the easement and does not appear that the Conservation Commission agreed with NHDES's mitigation plan. Therefore questions remain as to the legality of the conservation easement. Apparently NHDES accepted the mitigation plan as put forth by the property owner to set aside slightly less than one acre for conservation. But this plan was not acceptable to the New Hampton Conservation Commission. Therefore, there still remains the question of a legally recognized Conservation easement on the Vezina property. Mr. Connelly, owner of the property is still waiting to hear of the outcome. Chairman Moore will meet with Ms. Lucas, Town Administrator and Town attorney to review the issue further.

**KDCA Property boundary walk-** On December 6<sup>th</sup>, Gordon and Chairman Moore walked part of the boundary with Colin Brown of Central Land Surveying. The boundary line and other issues including the "boat dock" property were discussed. The Committee would like to merge this property with the larger KDCA. Discussions with owners of adjacent property will be considered. Pat borrowed the Survey maps and all the papers tracing the deeds of the property. They need to be returned to Colin Brown. Board members Leroux, DuBois and Chairman Moore would like to walk the remainder of the property lines in the near future. Commissioner Pollock has agreed to order signs to be placed along property boundary.

## **Stewardship Plan for KDCA**

Bruce Harvey of the local snowmobile club contacted Chairman Moore to begin work on trails that run through the property and requested permission to build a bridge over one of the streams. The Commission agreed to the request and would like to work the snowmobile club on the trail system.

There has been unrestricted ATV use of the snowmobile trails as well on the rest of the property and it is tearing up the trails and the property. The Commission agreed that we must take action on this issue. Chairman Moore suggested a survey of town citizens regarding their input into the best use of the property.

**Annual Retreat-**January 14, 2016 10:00-1:00. The annual retreat will focus on the stewardship plan for the KDCA. Chairman Moore will invite community stakeholders to participate in the planning process, e.g., police, fire, public works, historical society, Heritage Commission. Chairman Moore would like to meet with some individuals ahead of time. He will contact members who agreed to accompany him.

(Conservation Commission, December 12, 2016, cont.)

**Old Business-** Arlyn Clement has agreed to further pruning of apple trees on KDCA according to the contract.

**New Business-Saving Special Places Conference, Saturday April 8, 2017 at Prospect Mountain High School in Alton.** Terry Tempest Williams will be Keynote speaker. She is the Provostial Scholar at Dartmouth College. Her writing has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times*, *Orion Magazine*, and numerous anthologies worldwide as a crucial voice for ecological consciousness and social change. More information about the Conference can be found at [savingspecialplaces.org](http://savingspecialplaces.org).

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gordon DuBois,  
Secretary, New Hampton Conservation Commission

DRAFT