

Town of New Hampton
Conservation Commission Minutes
September 10, 2018
New Hampton Town Office
Upstairs Meeting Room, 6 Pinnacle Hill Rd.

Members present: T. Simpson, Chair, R. Pollock, G. DuBois, R. Leroux, G. DuBois, K. Peterson, and P. Schlesinger.

Absent: B. Rolfe

Excused: M. Schofield

Meeting called to order by Tyler Simpson at 7:02 PM

Minutes of the 6/11 and 6/18 meeting were reviewed and discussed.

Open Space Plan-The New Hampton Planning Board does not want to accept the Conservation Commission's Open Space Plan as part of the town's Master Plan, but will refer to it as the Conservation Commission's Open Space Plan and it will be referenced as such in the Town's Master Plan. The Open Space Plan will be reviewed at the October meeting of the Commission. Chairman Simpson will forward the plan to commission members.

A motion was made by Leroux and seconded by Schlesinger to approve the minutes of 6/11 and 6/18. Minutes were approved unanimously by Commission.

New Business:

- Shaun Lagueux was not present to review the Forest Management Plan of the Kelley-Drake Conservation Area and the Glines Property. It was also noted that the property boundaries of the Glines property are in question. Chairman Simpson will contact Lagueux.
- The Commission discussed the acceptance gift of a granite bench by Pat Schlesinger in memory of Waldo and Madeline Drake Wilkins "the last child born on the Kelley-Drake Property". The bench will be placed in the grove of trees adjacent to the cellar holes and the wooden bench that is currently there will be moved to the viewing area on the ridge. DuBois moved that the gift be accepted, seconded by Leroux and approved unanimously by commissioners. The gift will be referred to the Select Board for their approval.
- Parking area for the Kelley-Drake Conservation Area was discussed. The parking area needs to be moved due to the property boundaries of the Hart property that impact the parking space. Possible sites for a relocation of the parking area were discussed at length. Commission members agreed to meet at the K-D gate on Friday, September 14 @ 8:00 AM to review the issue and look at other possible sites for the relocation of the parking lot. Chairman Simpson will invite the Jim Boucher, Director of Public Works, to attend the meeting.
- Leroux made a motion that Commissioner DuBois coordinate, oversee and document the involvement of volunteers. DuBois agreed to continue in this role, which began a year ago, and continue. The motion was seconded by Pollock and approved by the Commission unanimously.

(Conservation Commission September 10, 2018, cont.)

- Each year the fourth grade of the New Hampton Community School takes a field trip to the Kelley-Drake Conservation Area to study the ecology of the area, led by a community member and faculty. The Conservation Commission has always supported this endeavor. A motion was made by Leroux and seconded by Schlesinger to allocate \$200.00 from Conservation Commission funds to support the field trip.
- DuBois reported on meeting with Lakes Region Conservation Trust, Property Allocation Committee regarding the Hart property that lies adjacent to the Kelley-Drake Conservation Area. DuBois spoke with Don Berry, Executive Director of the LRCT recently and was told by Mr. Berry that the Hart property is up for discussion this week. Mr. Berry said that he will get back to DuBois with the Committee's decision.
- DuBois also reported that he had been in contact with Whitney Beals of the New England Forestry Foundation regarding their interest in purchasing the "Robinson Falls" tract of 90 acres. The land borders NEFF's 3,256 acre Hersey Mountain Forest. The "Robinson Falls property is currently up for sale. Mr. Beals is interested in speaking with the owner of the property regarding the purchase. Mr. DuBois will contact Mr. Beals to learn of any follow up by NEFF with the owner, Tim Carter.
- Monitoring of easement properties was discussed. A review of the properties and schedule for monitoring of properties will be set at the next meeting in October.

Other Business

- Leroux inquired about the contract with Right Angle Engineering and the Snake River property. Leroux will contact Erin of Right Angle Engineering to get more information.
- Leroux and Chairman Simpson will cut knotweed and install new sign at Jenness Spring property.
- A trail map and brochure for Kelley-Drake was discussed. Pollock stated he was working on it, but Peterson volunteered to take up the cause.
- New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions Annual Meeting and Conference will be held November 3rd, at Pembroke Academy. If interested in attending contact Pam Vose at the town office.
- Seventeen students and three faculty from New Hampton School volunteered on 9/12, 9:30-1:30 doing brush clearing around and in cellar holes, along stone walls and on the Ridge Trail at the K.D.C.A.
- It was moved by Schlesinger for Pollock, as a representative of the NHCC to enter into discussions with NHDES in reviewing wetland permits when requested by DES. The motion was seconded by Leroux and approved unanimously.
- Leroux suggested contacting a company to have more work done with regards to the apple tree freeing project. Leroux will contact a potential contractor to continue the work and report back to the Commission at the October meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:58 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gordon DuBois, Secretary