



Town of Weare Conservation Commission

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Commission Members:
Andrew Fulton, Chair
Stephen Najjar, Vice
Chair
William Bolton
Sherry Burdick
Lori Davis
Michael Camacho
Lisa Purington-
Grolljahn, Alternate

CONSERVATION COMMISSION – July 15, 2020 FINAL MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 1813 by Chairman Fulton

Members present: Andy Fulton, Steve Najjar, Sherry Burdick, Mike Camacho, Lori Davis, Bill Bolton

Guests: Mark Phillips, Tim Lorenz and Steve Livingston of the Weare Winter Wonderers

I. DISCUSSION

A. Snowmobile Trail Stream Crossing

Mr. Najjar and Mr. Camacho performed separate trail walks of the newly established snowmobile trail at Wood Family Forest and noted a wetland area that needed attention; a bridge is required at a stream crossing. Mr. Philips noted that the crossing was already there as part of a skidder trail, and that a nonpermanent culvert was used during the winter season. The commission suggested submitting a Permit by Notification (PBN) to NHDES for the stream crossing, and to build a bridge at least to bank level height. The Weare Winter Wonderers(WWW) representatives agreed to the suggestions, and stated they would submit a PBN to NHDES and build a bridge for the crossing. The WWW representatives stated all bridges are built to the specks of the **Trail Association** BMP Guide and that they would submit a sketch of the bridge for the stream crossing to the commission by the Conservation Commission's August meeting.

B. Courtland Ave. Tree Stump Request

The commission received a request to cut stumps in the open space easement of the Courtland Ave property. It is the commission's impression that the landowner cannot disturb open space, but the terms of the deed would need to go through the town attorney. The commission advised that landowners do not disturb land until boundary monuments are set at the back of the Courtland Ave. property.

C. Bi-Laws and Chair/Vice-Chair Nominations

Mr. Fulton asked the commission if the Conservation Commission bi-laws needed to be updated or changed. There was no comment. It was noted that the website still says the commission has a trail committee, and that the webmaster should update the website.

Ms. Davis motioned to nominate Mr. Fulton Chairman of the Conservation Commission, and Mr. Najjar as Vice-President of the Conservation Commission. Mr. Najjar Seconded. All were in Favor 6-0. Mr. Fulton and Mr. Najjar accepted the nominations.

D. Toby Hill Land

Mr. Najjar stated the purchase of a significant chunk of undeveloped land on Toby Hill may be possible. Jeremy, of Meadowsend, spoke with the owners and they are interested in selling the land. The commission will need to have the land appraised. The thought is to appropriate money to move forward with purchasing the land, as the funds are available. The land is mapped as **tax card** 407.12 (52 acres) and 407.13 (65 acres). Mr. Najjar motioned to appropriate out of the conservation fund up to \$2,000 for a limited appraisal of the land, and \$1500 for Meadowsend, paid on the hourly forestry agreement, to act as the commission's agent during the process. Ms. Davis Seconded. All were in favor 6-0.

E. Huntington Parcel

146 acres of old habitat may be available for purchase. The Huntington parcel is interconnected with town land and would benefit the continued conservation of Weare's **open space**. Mr. Bolton and Mr. Najjar will continue looking into the possible purchase.

F. Meadowsend Forest Service Agreement (FSA):

Noted: Meadowsend hourly rate has increased from \$65 to \$75.

Mr. Najjar Motion to approve:

FSA 2020.001.FF, stating the hourly rate for Meadowsend is \$75,

2020.002.FF, for management plans of Eastman and Felch Farm, totaling \$15,902.40 out of the Town forest account and to submit a 20% deposit,

2020.003.FF, for town forest boundary work, totaling \$6,000 out of the Town forest account and to submit a 20% deposit.

Ms. Davis Seconded. All in favor 6-0.

G. Banks Parcel

A gate was moved and no trespassing signs were posted on conservation land. Mr. Najjar would like a "conservation land" sign put up on the land so the public is not deterred from using the land. Mr. Najjar Motioned up to \$2,400 out of the conservation fund be used for Meadowsend to blaze the boundary on the Bank Parcel. Ms. Burdick Seconded, all in favor 6-0.

Mr. Najjar motioned to recommend the Board of Selectmen work with the Department of Public works to remove the gate from where it stands and move it to where it is needed for town operations. Mr. Bolton seconded. All in favor 6-0.

It was suggested that the commission should research a new name for the land. As a suggestion for thought, Ms. Burdick stated the land is in the area of the old town center.

H. Meadowsend Invoice Approval

Mr Najjar Motioned to sign approval for payment of:

\$73.69 to replace the padlock at Ferren Pond out of the Town forest account.

Invoice 030920; correspondence with boundary maintenance of Collins Ledge as part of the FSA at a total of \$37.50, out of the conservation fund.

Invoice 012720; for selectmen meeting appearance totaling \$260 out of Town forest account.

II. NEXT MEETING

Conservation Commission meeting to occur on August 12, 2020.

III. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Burdick **Motion** to adjourn at 1942. Ms. Davis seconded and passed collectively with a 6-0 vote.