

HILLSBOROUGH CONSERVATION COMMISSION

May 10, 2022

Held at Police Station Training Room

Approved Minutes

Chair Head called the Hillsborough Conservation Commission (HCC) meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Members present: Richard Head, Chair; Linda White, Vice Chair; Terry Yeaton; Roger Shamel.

Also attending: John P. Segedy, Recording Secretary & Alternate; James McDonough, Peter Mellen, Mary Ellen Bennett, Dr. Colton Sawyer Life Forest

VISITOR BUSINESS

a. Mary Ellen Bennett & Dr. Colton Sawyer – Life Forest – Addressed the HCC and described the Life Forest, which abuts the Commissions “Old Mill Farm” property. Dr. Sawyer, mapping specialist shared a map of the properties including existing trails and said they can provide GPS (Global Positioning System) information for. Other information provided included the Forest’s Arboretum status, educational aspects, donated spaces for children and prisoners and an internship program that their wetland scientist, Cameron Ickes has started with Southern New Hampshire University.

Dr. Sawyer noted that the first areas they have developed for burials has been filling up, that they are limited by not being able to utilize wetland areas, and that to use an area further inland on the property would require crossing a wet area with a culvert which could be expensive. Dr. Sawyer said she was looking to see if the town and the HCC would consider a lot line adjustment that would allow them to use some of the conservation land.

John Segedy asked if they were looking for just getting some of the HCC property or for trading some of their wetland. Ms. Bennett said they were open to considering different options.

Richard Head noted that having the culvert work done could be advantageous to the HCC to improve trail access. Chair Head suggested (and the consensus of the HCC agreed) that the first step would be to know what area the Life Forest was interested in. Ms. Bennett said they could mark it for the HCC to be able to see it.

Roger Shamel noted that the Commission would be looking to have a sign by the entrance and a kiosk with trail maps at some point as they develop the trail system.

b. Peter Mellen – Addressed the Commission to clarify some work to be done.

1. It was clarified that the south side of the newest addition to the Old Mill Farm property (M 11, L 9-1) should be marked.

2. The access corridor for the Black Brook Pond Brook property (M 7, L 119) needs to be marked with trail markers approximately in the center of the corridor.

3. The PSNH easement (M 10, L 58 & M 11B, L 280) needs to be marked. Peter will prepare an estimate.

MINUTES

a. April 26, 2022.

A name spelling correction was suggested.

Roger Shamel moved: *To approve the minutes of March 9, 2022.*

Linda White seconded. Motion Passed 4-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a. **Town of Hillsborough** – Expense report.
- b. **New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions (NHACC)** – Thanks for renewing membership and request to update membership.
- c. **Dianne Bowen** – E-mail letter inquiring about assistance maintaining Sand Knoll and Kimball Roads. It was noted that the HCC has no funding budgeted to do this. Richard Head will reply.
- d. **NH Lakes Association** – Invitation to attend a meeting.
- e. **Town of Hillsborough Planning Department**– Request for Comment – Subdivision Application, 741 West Main St. (M 10, L 46)

John Segedy recused himself from discussion of this matter.

Richard Head discussed a waiver request that was based on an alleged conflict between the Subdivision and Zoning rules. He opined that there wasn't a conflict but simply two different rules for different purposes. He also noted that a large part of the property is within an aquifer overlay zone and while that doesn't restrict residential use that he thought it should be a factor in considering subdivisions. Consensus of the HCC was to agree with Richard's views.

Roger Shamel moved: *To authorize Chair Head to share the concerns raised with the Planning Department.* Linda White seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

John Segedy rejoined discussion.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. **Confluence Trail** - West Main St. (M 11K, L 330-1). Terry Yeaton reported he had put two benches on the property. Richard Head said he still needed to prepare trail map and then submit the PBN (Permit by Notification) application.
- b. **Easement workshop** – Linda White reported that she had confirmed Paul Doscher was available for June 25th. His fee is \$100/hour. She will confirm the room at Fox Forest. Richard Head reported that the 5 Rivers Conservation Trust will supply hand outs John Segedy will find out cost for postcards to do mailing and will prepare it.
- c. **Easement Monitoring** – Richard Head and Terry Yeaton will try again to do this on May 22nd.

OTHER BUSINESS

- a. **Membership** – James McDonough has agreed to rejoin the Commission. Chair Head will submit his name for appointment.

ADJOURNMENT

Roger Shamel moved: *To adjourn.*

Linda White seconded. Motion Passed 4-0 at 9:10.

Respectfully Submitted:

John P. Segedy
Recording Secretary
Approved May 24, 2022