

HILLSBOROUGH CONSERVATION COMMISSION

May 24, 2012
Official Minutes

Present:

Commissioners: Brett Cherrington, Chair; Linda White, Vice-Chair; Tom Fournier, Terry Yeaton, Rachel Hawkinson, Ann Ford (Alternate)

Chair Brett Cherrington called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM.

Minutes recorded by: Linda White

Ann Ford was appointed to vote in place of Richard Head.

Minutes:

May 10, 2012

Linda White moved: *To approve the minutes of May 10, 2012 as amended.* Ann Ford seconded.

Motion passed 5-0-1. Tom Fournier abstained. Brett Cherrington will forward amendments to John Segedy for revision and final posting.

Correspondence:

1. Two more Natural Resource Inventory landowner permission letters were received and will be forwarded onto Moosewood Ecological.
2. Letter confirming Rachel Hawkinson's appointment to the Commission was received.
3. 2012 Lakes Congress agenda and invitation for meeting being held on Friday, June 22, 2012.
4. Hummingbird Lane culvert/bridge replacement engineering plans were received and briefly discussed.
5. Letter from Upton & Hatfield on behalf of Kemp Park Committee inviting a Commission member to serve on the committee. The committee will work on design plans for the proposed Kemp Park. Rachel Hawkinson volunteered to serve.
6. NH Lakes Association Membership renewal request. The Commission had already renewed in February, 2012.

Old Business:

1. Natural Resources Inventory (NRI): nothing new to report other than the two letters mentioned above.
2. Sur Realty: Brett Cherrington visited the property. Logging has been completed. Brett shared photos of the finished cut which showed evidence of a fairly clean and professional operation. No vernal pools appear to have been significantly impacted by the cut. We will wait to hear from Sue Rauth again before re-addressing a proposed conservation easement for the property. While there, Brett traversed the River Walk and noted that most of the Conservation Property signs were missing and needed to be replaced.
3. Review of Official Documents: tabled until the next meeting. Members are encouraged to view documents on Google Doc.

4. Website upgrade: possible improvements/additions to the site were discussed. Discussion to be continued at next meeting. It was agreed that this topic would be a recurring topic on future agendas and addressed as time permits.
5. Plumer Farm – proposed conservation easement: A brief history of this project was discussed. No action was taken at this time.
6. It was noted that a closing was held for the conservation easement on the Ken and Vicki Coffin property on Bog Road. Partners in the easement were the Russell Foundation, the Humane Society of USA and Five Rivers Conservation Land Trust.
7. James Card Wetlands violation: This violation has not been rectified. Linda White will check with DES to see what further action is pending.

New Business:

Brett Cherrington presented ideas for Conservation Commission priorities.

A. Near term:

1. Update the membership contact list
2. Add the Conservation Commission email address when sending group emails to all Commission members. This will provide a centralized location and documented record of all Commission emails.
3. List all Commission projects with approximate action steps and completion schedule as an addendum to each meeting minutes.

B. Short/Medium term:

1. replace missing/damaged conservation and easement tags on properties under Commission jurisdiction. Terry Yeaton offered to do this on the River Walk. Gleason Falls and House Rock were scheduled for Sunday, June 3rd, at 8:30 AM. Meeting point will be the NH Liquor Store parking lot.
2. create mission statement

C. Long term:

1. update Town's trail system map
 2. re-establish/rework River Walk self guided tour
 3. build trail on PSNH easement
 4. establish a town forest
 5. pass a wetlands ordinance
2. Terry Yeaton suggested contacting a potential property owner to see if he would be interested in putting a conservation easement on his property. Brett Cherrington will work on drawing up a letter to the owner.

Other business:

1. Brett initiated a discussion about the condition of the access road leading to Bagley Pond and its beach area. There is extensive 4 wheeler damage along the entire length of the road and up to the beach. The road is on private property. Ann Ford will contact the owners as, at the very least, there is a shoreline protection violation.
2. The US Dept. of Plant Protection and Quarantine has hung an emerald ash borer trap on one of the Commission properties.
3. Terry Yeaton suggested contacting Brian Hotz at the Society for the Protection of NH Forests to see if there was space between the Lowe State Forest and the Wenny-Baker

Thompson Hill Conservation Easement for a parking area/kiosk. Feasibility was discussed.

Adjournment:

Tom Fournier moved: *To adjourn*

Terry Yeaton seconded. Motion passed 6-0 at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda White, Vice-chair
Approved June 14, 2012