

HILLSBOROUGH CONSERVATION COMMISSION

June 21, 2018

Hillsborough Town Office

Unapproved Minutes

Present:

Commissioners: Terry Yeaton, Chair; Linda White, Vice Chair; Richard Head; Russ Galpin; Roger Shamel, Alternate.

John P. Segedy, Recording Secretary & Alternate;

Marian Baker, Susan Shamel, Doug Southard

Chair Yeaton called the Hillsborough Conservation Commission (HCC) meeting to order at 7:00 pm. John Segedy and Roger Shamel were appointed to vote in place of vacancies.

VISITOR BUSINESS

- 1. ATV Use on Town Roads** – Linda White spoke about information she had received from Ann Eldridge who is on the Bradford Conservation Commission regarding the Woodlands ATV Club's request to use Hillsborough & Bradford Roads to be part of their trail system.

John Segedy said that due to information being sent by Linda White he had added this to the agenda. In preparation for the meeting he explained that he had spoken to Town Administrator Laura Buono. He reported that Ms. Buono had left a map and copies of information provided by the Woodlands ATV Club for the HCC to know what they are proposing. She also told him that the Club is going to speak about their request at the Selectboard Meeting on July 10th. And at that time if the Selectboard was interested in considering the request further, they would schedule a Public Hearing.

Doug Southard addressed the Commission and explained he was a Bradford resident and one of a group that had attended the Bradford proceedings on the same matter. He said that a number of citizens had spoken at the Bradford Selectboard Meeting. He also reported that a member of the NH Fish & Game Department had spoken about the legal issues as well as enforcement, in that it would be a Town's duty to enforce laws on roads that it allows access on. Doug also noted that there was concern about the Club using trails in Low Forest. He questioned the club's ability to get State funds. Doug reported that ultimately the Bradford Selectboard had voted 3-0 against allowing use of their roads,

Marian Baker noted that Henniker had opened up some roads in the Quaker Hill area of town and has had issues since they did.

Susan Shamel spoke about walking on trails and back roads and that she has experienced ruts left by ATV's and trash left behind.

Doug Southard noted that the Town of Washington had also turned down a similar request.

The HCC discussed the issue. Russ Galpin noted the provided Map had what appeared to be errors as to some of the roads classification.

Richard Head noted that he would need to recuse himself from a vote on the issue.

Russ Galpin said he was bothered by Fish and Game's lack of enforcement.

Linda White asked the Commission if they wanted to take a position on the issue.

John Segedy said he would want to hear both sides before making a decision.

Terry Yeaton suggested that the HCC take a position at the Selectboard's meeting and then if there is a Hearing people could give Individual positions.

Richard Head suggested that the HCC could serve as a resource to the Selectboard as to the Natural Resources in the areas being considered. They also could invite professionals – for example law enforcement and Fish and Game to provide input as well as encourage expanded notice for any hearing.

Roger Shamel said he thought the HCC should oppose the proposal as many of the proposed trails are in Ecologically Significant Areas as outlined in the Town's NRI (Natural Resources Inventory).

Russ Galpin said the ATV club may have to do what the Snowmobile Clubs did by creating trails on private property.

Chair Yeaton suggested the Commission discuss the matter again at the July 5th meeting and decide then about taking a position at the Selectboard meeting. Consensus of the Commission was in agreement with the Chairs suggestion.

2. **Marian Baker** – Addressed the HCC with other questions. She asked if the Lou Jones property was under an Easement with SPNHF (Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests). Linda White answered that it was. Ms. Baker also noted that the Tax Maps appear out of date. She questioned where to bring concerns about building going on next of Contention Pond where a hillside next to the pond had been denuded. It was suggested that she could speak to the Code Enforcement Officer. Chair Yeaton said the issue would be discussed during the “Correspondence” section of the meeting.

MINUTES

1. **June 7, 2018.**

Richard Head moved: *To approve the minutes of June 7, 2018.*

Linda White seconded. Motion passed 5-0-1 (Linda White abstained).

CORRESPONDENCE

1. **New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES)** – 25 Morgan Road (M 20, L 31). Letter of Compliance.
2. **NHDES** – 15 Moccasin Trail (M 16, L 306). Letter of Deficiency.
3. **NHDES** – 125 Gould Pond Road (M 9, L 135). Shoreland Impact Permit.
4. **NHDES** – 411 East Washington Road (M 5, L 25). Notice of Complaint Recieved. It was noted that this was the property that Ms. Baker had spoken of earlier.
5. **NH Department of Natural and Cultural Resources** - Fox Forest, Bog Road & Whitney Road. Notice of Timber Harvest.
6. **Intent to Cut** – East Washington Road (M 1, L 1).
7. **NHPDIP (NH Public Deposit Investment Pool)** – Conservation Fund Account Statement (Interest = \$157.08, Balance \$102,168.21).

OLD BUSINESS

1. **The Flats – Contoocook Confluence Trail** (M 11K, L 330-1) – Terry Yeaton reported that he and Richard Head had walk the Board walks and an area that needed to be moved.
2. **Aquifer Ordinance** – The commission reviewed list of concerns compiled from previous discussion and marked up version that Richard Head had prepared. Consensus to discuss again at next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Richard Head moved: *To adjourn.*

Roger Shamel seconded. Motion passed 6-0 at 8:48 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

John P. Segedy
Recording Secretary