

Town of Boscawen
Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes – Final
Boscawen Municipal Complex – 4th Floor Meeting Room
March 21, 2017 at 7pm

Members Present: Tom Gilmore – Chair, Jeff Abbe, Lyman Cousens, Norman LaPierre, and Alexandria Hudek arrived at 7:36pm.

Others Present: Alan Hardy – Planning and Community Development Director and Katie Phelps – Recording Secretary.

Regular Business:

- Chairman Gilmore called the meeting to order at 7:00pm with a voting board.
- Roll Call made by Chairman Gilmore.

Review and Acceptance of Prior Meeting Minutes:

The Commission reviewed meeting minutes from the February meeting.

Motion made by Lyman Cousens, and seconded by Norman LaPierre, to accept the minutes from the February as written. All in favor.

Accountant's Reports:

The Commission reviewed the Profit & Loss Report and Balance Sheet. The conservation account balance as of March 21, 2017 is \$131,863.02.

Old Business:

- **Hardy Easement Update:**

Alan Hardy showed the commission a conservation easement plat for his property. A rectangle shaped lot of 5.514 acres is being left out of the easement and includes his house and barn. The balance of the property will be put under easement and can never be developed. It isn't a subdivision and no approval is required. He will be working with the attorney to write the easement description. The easement is being funded to prevent any development near Avaloch Farm Music Institute. There will be no recreational restrictions. Discussion ensued.

- **Keegan Event – Five Rivers Conservation:**

Alan said there will be a walk of the Keegan property on April 23rd. The organizers at Five Rivers are looking for a place with parking and bathroom facilities offsite and will shuttle people back and forth. They are estimating around 60 people in attendance. Alan went on to say that they may use Jamie Welch Park but we will need to see if the water is on for the bathroom facilities. The plan is still in the works. The suggested donation for the event is \$5. Five Rivers doesn't want to invest in the porta potty for the day because they want all donations to go to the Conservation Commission.

- **Walker Pond Property:**

Alan thinks the water precinct may be willing to part with the property. He is working with appraiser Jim Scrivens, who is a member of our Planning Board, to come up with a number. Bruce Crawford did mention to Alan that the water precinct would like to have an easement in the event that they ever needed water. Tom Gilmore said there shouldn't be an issue creating an easement for that purpose. Alan says the

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only question we'd have moving forward is what to do with the old pump house. It is currently taking up parking space. Tom says we can figure out what to do with it after closing. Discussion ensued.

- **Avitar – Trail System:**

Jeff Abbe spoke to Ashton at Avitar. A few weeks ago he brought them an updated trail map and they haven't been able to get to it yet. Alan says as of April 1st there will be a map update which includes anything that's changed – ex: subdivisions. The new maps will show the trail system. There is a program called GRANIT that is the statewide GPS map. They want every piece of the data they can find.

New Business:

- **Tim Fleury – UNH Cooperative County Forester:**

Chairman Gilmore met with Tim Fleury who has a mandate to fill out a form on the use forestry plots – particularly the big pieces of land in towns. Mr. Gilmore told him that the town forest is under the control of the Conservation Commission. Alan says the law states that conservation money must be used for two purposes only – acquisition of land or acquisition of easement. Tom says we should get a forester for the Town Forest. Discussion ensued. Alan will try to touch base with Ron Komerczyk, who did the town forest management plan to see if he may be interested in being the forester. If not, maybe he can suggest someone else who may be a good fit.

- **Legislative Updates:**

Chairman Gilmore says he will get an updated list on pertinent legislative bills from the Contoocook River Group and email it to Katie Phelps for distribution to the commissioners. Some legislative bills may include the 100ft wetlands setback statewide as well as eliminating the state land use board – which seems to have the community upset. Discussion ensued.

- **Coldbrook Gravel:**

Jeff Abbe asked if Coldbrook Gravel has been inspected since changing owners. Alan says they are getting ready for spring opening and we are doing a review with their surveyor to see what needs to be done. They are planning to use their 40 floating days to start early this year. There will be a schedule available soon. In Alan's opinion, the consumption is going to be at a higher rate. Jeff Abbe says their property is posted private property and wondered if that was an issue with current use. Alan says yes.

Motion to adjourn made by Lyman Cousens, and seconded by Jeff Abbe. All in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 7:58pm.

Next meeting of the Commission will be April 18, 2017 at 7pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Katie Phelps