

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Boscawen Municipal Complex

Meeting Minutes - Draft
Tuesday, August 15, 2017 @ 7:00 PM

Commissioners Present: Tom Gilmore, Chair, Jeffrey Abbe, Norman LaPierre

Absent: Lyman Cousens, Alexandria Kyasky

Regular Business

- Open by Chair
- Roll call: All members present with exception of Lyman Cousens. A resignation letter was received from Alexandria Kyasky effective tonight.
- Review and Acceptance of the Minutes of prior meeting: A **motion** to accept the Minutes was made by Jeff Abbe, seconded by Norm LaPierre and passed by a unanimous vote.
- Accountant's Report:— The first half of the expenses for the Town Forester were paid. \$1,750 is still owed to the Forester. Alan Hardy explained the report. Jeff Abbe asked if they could have John Fife mow one more time. Alan Hardy said yes. Tom Gilmore said there's money in the Forest Fund. Alan said \$5,742 is left there. Jeff Abbe would like mowing to be done one more time before the Fall.

Old Business:

- Town Forester Charles Niebling: He will not be here tonight. His report is not yet done. He thought the meeting was next week. He said he would get the final report to the Commission and Tom Gilmore would like the Commission to allow him to make the last payment to him after the report is received. He will send it out to the Commission and they can email comments back to him. A **motion** to authorize the Chairman to make final payment to the Forester for his contracted work was made by Jeff Abbe, seconded by Norm LaPierre and passed by a unanimous vote. Tom Gilmore noted that they should start thinking about making a presentation to the Board of Selectmen about what they would like to do with the funds from the timber cut of the Forest. He also noted that they are able to retain the first \$4,000 and then they will have to explain to the Board of Selectmen why they need to retain the remainder of the funds. They should have planned projects laid out; i.e. development of trails, etc. They can then present those projects to the Board of Selectmen. Jeff Abbe noted that Charlie Niebling could possibly advise them as to what projects they could put the money towards. Jeff Abbe noted that they did have a walk through the Forest last month.
- Hardy Easement Update: They received the contract from the attorney and the one thing Tom Gilmore noticed a change they he would like to make. The contract says that if Mr. Hardy would like to do a timber cut on the property, he would have to have a licensed Forester with a Forestry Plan. Tom Gilmore said that that provision is not something that they have on the Goodhue property or his property. He would expect Mr. Hardy would log it appropriately. Alan Hardy said that paragraph (f), on page 5, by itself, would be a good guideline as it says what the minimum should be. Tom Gilmore feels that that paragraph would cover what they need. Jeff Abbe asked if it would carry through with the deed. Tom Gilmore said yes. He would like to remove paragraph e. Alan Hardy said it was also noted in paragraph b. Tom Gilmore would like to eliminate b, c, d and e. Tom Gilmore said that the appraiser should be able to do his appraisal. Alan Hardy was asked to contact the appraiser. A **motion** to remove from the document section b, c, d and e was made by Norm LaPierre, seconded by Jeff Abbe and passed by a unanimous vote.

A **motion** to ask Alan Hardy to submit this to the appraiser for the final appraisal was made by Norm LaPierre, seconded by Jeff Abbe and passed by a unanimous vote.

- Snowmobile Trails: Trails in the Town Forest. Norm LaPierre and Tom Gilmore noted that the Snowmobile Club hasn't decided on adding new trails as of yet. They need to talk with the new trail administrator.
- Walker Pond Purchase: Alan Hardy noted that on September 13, 2017 the Commission can go to the water precinct to talk with them about purchasing Walker Pond. Tom Gilmore noted that they could develop it into a park or something similar. Alan Hardy was not sure if they would want the pump house. Does the Commission have use of the pump house? It is a shell right now – there is nothing in it. Tom Gilmore noted it would make a nice warming shed for ice skating, etc.
- Town Forest Consolidation: LOT MERGER – Tom Gilmore said they put it on hold. Alan Hardy said he would schedule it. Tom Gilmore stated that they had to have a meeting with the Planning Board. Alan Hardy said Technical Review Board.
- Town Forest trails sub-committee: Jeff Abbe hasn't had time. Tom Gilmore asked about the invasive out there. Jeff Abbe said they had gotten bad. He feels that they should keep it mowed down. Alan Hardy reported that the current use program has a feature that as long as you have enough land to be qualified in the program, you can take lots out one at a time and as they come out you get the conversion cost which is about 10% of market value. There are 5 lots coming out on Knowlton Road and that would mean about \$3,800 to the Commission. Alan Hardy will check to see if the Commission has the ability to use the money for expenses that they get from the logging.

New Business:

- PBWP land on Chadwick Hill – Alan Hardy noted that this was the Water Precinct land that the Commission has already spoken about.

Next Meeting: September 19, 2017 at 7pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Rose Fife, Recording Secretary