

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Boscawen Municipal Complex

April 21, 2020 @ 7:00 pm

Present: Thomas Gilmore, Chair, Jeffrey Abbe, Lyman Cousens, Mark Kaplan, Ed Cherian Jr.

Absent: Norman LaPierre, Henry Carrier, Brendon Jackson

Staff Present: Kellee Jo Easler, Planning & Community Development Director, Kearsten O'Brien, Planning & Community Development Clerk, Rose Fife, Recording Secretary

Guest: Forester Charlie Niebling

Due to the Covid-19/Corona Virus crisis and in accordance with Governor Sununu's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, the Board was authorized to meet electronically. The Town of Boscawen utilized the GoToMeeting platform.

Regular Business:

Open by Chair • 7:05 pm

Roll call taken by Chair

Review and Acceptance of the Minutes of the prior meeting: A **motion** to accept the Minutes was made by Cousens, seconded by Abbe and passed by a unanimous vote. NAY: none. Abstain: Cherian.

Accountant's Report: The balance sheet from the Town Forest account shows \$31,064.88. The Capital Budget has \$202,188.78. Gilmore would like to see their line item budget at the next meeting. Easler will have it sent out by email.

Old Business:

- Natural Resource Update – Kaplan reached out to Central NH Planning and they are getting close to having final maps for the Commission. They should have them before the next meeting.
- Discussion Items Town Forest – They now have 2 town forests. At next month's meeting they will discuss suggestions for naming the new forest. The current Town Forest can be called the Weir Road Town Forest as it is off of Weir Road, if the Commission chooses. The Commission will take time to find a name for the new forest.

New Business:

- Permits & Reviews of Wetlands Permit 47 24 High Street: Gilmore asked the Commission if they received the sheet showing the driveway which also denotes the wetland crossing. It looks like it is well laid out. The wetland is delineated. There were no comments from Commissioners. Cousens noted that this property is across the street from the Colby Tree Farm. Kathleen Paine is the daughter of the late Jim Colby. A **motion** to approve the Wetland Permit was made by Cousens, seconded by Abbe and passed by unanimous vote. NAY: none. Abstain: none. It was noted that they were going to subdivide and place a house on the property.

Abbe wanted to discuss the Town Forest, in particular having Web Stout finish the survey on the Creaser lot. Gilmore agreed. They need to make plans for future use of the new Town Forest. Abbe noted that some abutters of the new forest stated that the corners were not set. The corners on Queen Street were not set. He's not sure about the back corners either. Gilmore tasked Easler with having the surveyor set the corners. Niebling asked to be present while it is being done. He noted that there is a discrepancy in one corner that will get resolved.

Abbe asked if they had heard from Web Stout. Easler spoke with him and he stated that he hasn't gotten to it yet. Web Stout was going to get in touch with Niebling. Niebling hasn't heard from him yet. Niebling noted that most of the corners are monumented and have been located. Where they need the Surveyor's assistance is in locating and monumenting the remaining corners. It doesn't need to be a full boundary survey. The main focus is monumenting corners that were never set as well as helping to find corners on 2 of the tax deed property that the town has owned for a while. Abbe spoke with abutters to the new forest and they were very supportive.

Niebling wanted to encourage the commission to start thinking about trail use on the new town forest. A trail head project would be nice to see across from Marshall's gun shop. Perhaps volunteers or DPW could possibly look at doing a modest parking area. There is a decent 3 mile loop in that forest.

Abbe asked if it they should start. The Queen Street entrance needs brush cutting. DPW just did the edges of the road with their tractors. If they had extra fill to rough in the parking lot there with a kiosk at both Marshall's and Queen Street. Can they get started with the work? Possibly get a couple of kiosks built. Gilmore suggested he speak with the DPW and see if they will put a load of stone or gravel. Abbe thought they would need 3 or 4 loads of fill. The forest across from Marshall's Fire Arms, they need to cut some trees and clear out the area to get started on it. Niebling suggested they check with DOT as they may need a driveway permit from them as that is a State roadway. He's suggesting a modest 3 or 4 car parking lot. He'd like to see a discreet sign on Route 3 there. He believes it will be popular. Gilmore asked Abbe to contact DPW to discuss the Queen Street entrance, which won't need a permit. He'd also like him to check into getting the State driveway permit for Route 3.

Gilmore expressed that the town meeting was done superbly. The walk with Niebling was successful. Henry Carrier was also out advertising at the voting area telling everyone about it. They received tremendous support.

Cherian wanted the commission to realize that they are bringing in more people onto the quiet road to utilize the town forests. There was some wood stolen from a neighbor's driveway. Gilmore thought that if the forest across from the gun shop is utilize more it would relieve some of the traffic from Weir Road.

Abbe wanted to thank Cousens for the publicity in the NewsVine. He also wanted to report that their Eagle Scout has completed his projects and they had a ceremony Sunday night with the family to place a plaque on the back side of the benches.

Kaplan asked about the red flags on Walker Pond. Are they surveying the pond? Abbe thought they were wetland delineations.

Abbe was also concerned about the horsepower restriction on Walker Pond. The sign that tells about this restriction has been stolen. It was for 6 hp only. Fish and Game or the Department of Safety should be notified that the sign was stolen. Niebling said there is hp restriction and he will send a list to every one of the ponds with restrictions.

A **motion** to adjourn was made by Gilmore, seconded by Abbe and passed by a unanimous vote. NAY: none. Abstain: none.

Next Meeting: • May 19, 2020

Respectfully submitted,
Rose Fife, Recording Secretary

CC FM 04.21.20