

Grantham Conservation Commission

MINUTES

OCTOBER 5, 2020

300 ROUTE 10 SOUTH, GRANTHAM, NH

MEETING CALLED BY	Chairman David Wood
TYPE OF MEETING	Regular Meeting of the Conservation Commission - held electronically & in person
FACILITATOR	Chairman David Wood
NOTE TAKER	David Wood
COMMISSION MEMBERS	John Eylander, Richard Hocker, Rich Kaszeta, Craig McArt, Dennis Ryan & David Wood (remote)
ABSENT	Susan Buchanan
SELECTBOARD REP	
OTHER VISITORS	Emily Owen (web conference host); Sheridan Brown; Anne Payeur (ASLPT)

Wood called the Grantham Conservation Commission to order on Monday, Oct 5, 2020 at 7:05 p.m. The meeting was conducted in person with Wood, Payeur and Brown participating electronically.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

DISCUSSION		
<p>Wood asked if there were any additions, corrections, or modifications to the draft minutes of the regular meeting of Sept 14, 2020. A correction was recommended by McArt. There being no other corrections, Wood announced that he would entertain a motion to approve the minutes as revised. A motion was made by Kaszeta; seconded by Hocker. There being no further discussion, the motion was put to a vote. Unanimously Approved & Accepted</p>		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Approved minutes will be submitted for posting	Wood	ASAP

OLD BUSINESS - SAWYER BROOK HEADWATERS (SBH)

DISCUSSION		
<p>Anne Payeur speaking for the Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust (ASLPT) suggested that the first step in the development of the SBH should be the preparation of a management plan that describes the natural resources and habitats of the property. She noted that as part of the fundraising done by ASLPT some funds are available to support the preparation of such a plan if requested by the Selectmen. Brown noted that the project will likely need to be put out to bid. Brown also suggested that an effort should be made to determine whether earlier management plans had been developed by the previous owner, Bill Ruger. Hocker believes Ruger's forester would likely have been Troy Simino.</p> <p>It was also noted that Chief Parsons has Park Service experience and might serve as a helpful resource.</p> <p>Brown remarked that he is working with the Town to draft a town-owned land ordinance and clarify the issues regarding class VI roads of the town, including those associated with the SBH - Old Dunbar Hill Road, Croydon Turnpike and Hartshorn Road. He believes that Blackberry Way is a logging road and not a class VI road. Consequently, it may be possible to consider methods to restrict vehicular traffic on it to those permissible under the easement.</p> <p>Wood asked whether ASLPT would favor the creation of loop trails in the SBH. Payeur answered that her priorities would be to establish trails to avoid steep banks that might be subject to erosion, to avoid wet areas, and to minimize the impact on habitat.</p> <p>Payeur is waiting for the completion of the boundary blazing by the surveyor (expected by November) before organizing the annual monitoring of the property.</p> <p>Wood asked whether ASLPT would be supportive of a BioBlitz on the SBH if the UNH Cooperative Extension still plans to sponsor the program. Without additional information the question is unanswerable.</p>		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

Contact Tory Simino re: Ruger FMP	Wood	ASAP
Develop the information required to put out a bid for an Natural Resource Management Plan	Wood, Selectboard, ASLPT	ASAP

OLD BUSINESS – TOWN FOREST

DISCUSSION		
Revision of Miller Pond Rd/Mountain Rd: Wood reminded the CC that the removal of utility poles on the right-of-way has been approved by the Planning Board and that Eva Duff has given permission for removal of the one obstructing tree on her property. HB Logging had planned to begin the work within 2 weeks of receipt of the signed contract and initial payment from the Town. Wood believes that has or will occur soon.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Continue to monitor progress	Wood	ASAP

OLD BUSINESS – MONITORING OF SHERWOOD FOREST

DISCUSSION		
Wood noted that the dates of the monitoring of the Sherwood Forest have been changed to Oct 13 with a rain date of Oct 15. McArt and Hocker plan to join. Hocker noted that Bruce Flewelling is also interested in joining.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None		

OLD BUSINESS – MOWING OF FISHER LOT

DISCUSSION		
Wood announced that the mowing of the lot was completed on Sept 30 by Ed Buckman and that the invoice for \$240 has been submitted and was approved during the Sept GCC meeting.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None		

OLD BUSINESS – SHORELAND CUTTING APPLICATIONS

DISCUSSION		
Three applications for tree removal have been approved; one is outstanding.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None		

OLD BUSINESS – GOOGLE MAP CORRECTIONS

DISCUSSION		
Kaszeta reported no response from Google regarding his request for corrections.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None		

OLD BUSINESS – PERAMBULATION

DISCUSSION		
The Selectboard has asked the CC to organize the perambulation of Grantham's boundaries. Kaszeta reported that a tentative date of May 11, 2021 has been set to monitor the boundary with Croydon within Corban Park with a rain date of May 18. Plainfield also wants to delay perambulation until the spring of 2021.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Organize perambulation	Kaszeta	2021

NEW BUSINESS – WETLAND VIOLATION

DISCUSSION		
Wood announced that the CC has received notification of a wetland violation from the NHDES regarding the Wilson property (tax map 237-025) requiring remediation before Oct 26.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None		

HANDOUTS

None

NEXT MEETING

If permissible, the next meeting of the Grantham Conservation Commission will be held in person in the Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room on Monday, Nov 2, 2020 at 7 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Wood asked if there was any further business. There being none, Eylander made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Kaszeta. **Unanimously Approved & Accepted**

Respectfully submitted,

David Wood
Grantham Conservation Commission Chair