

# Grantham Conservation Commission

## MINUTES

NOVEMBER 2, 2020

300 ROUTE 10 SOUTH, GRANTHAM, NH

<b>MEETING CALLED BY</b>	Chairman David Wood
<b>TYPE OF MEETING</b>	Regular Meeting of the Conservation Commission
<b>FACILITATOR</b>	Chairman David Wood
<b>NOTE TAKER</b>	David Wood
<b>COMMISSION MEMBERS</b>	Susan Buchanan, John Eylander, Richard Hocker, Rich Kaszeta, Craig McArt, Dennis Ryan & David Wood
<b>ABSENT</b>	
<b>SELECTBOARD REP</b>	Peter Garland
<b>OTHER VISITORS</b>	Emily Owen (web conference host)

Wood called the Grantham Conservation Commission to order on Monday, Nov 2, 2020 at 7:06 p.m.

### APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

<b>DISCUSSION</b>		
Wood asked if there were any additions, corrections, or modifications to the draft minutes of the regular meeting of Oct 5, 2020. Several corrections were recommended by Buchanan. There being no other corrections, Wood announced that he would entertain a motion to approve the minutes as revised. A motion was made by McArt; seconded by Ryan. There being no further discussion, the motion was put to a vote. <b>Unanimously Approved &amp; Accepted</b>		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
Approved minutes will be submitted for posting	Wood	ASAP

### OLD BUSINESS – TOWN FOREST

<b>DISCUSSION</b>		
Wood announced that Brunnell Logging has cleared the trees at the end of Miller Pond Road to allow the relocation of the power and telephone lines and that Consolidated Communications has initiated plans for the line relocation. Wood is not yet aware where the new parking area will be located, although a preferred location has been determined.		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
Continue to monitor progress	Wood	ASAP

### OLD BUSINESS - SAWYER BROOK HEADWATERS (SBH)

<b>DISCUSSION</b>		
Wood announced that the Select Board has requested that the GCC work with the Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust (ASLPT) to prepare a "Request for Proposal" that the Town could use to solicit bids for the preparation of a management plan for the SBH. Wood has contacted Anne Payeur at ASLPT to learn their expectations for the plan and is awaiting a reply. Buchanan suggested that the plan might better be referred to as a Natural Resources Management Plan, rather than a Forest Management Plan.  Wood has also tried to contract Troy Simino without success to determine whether a forest management plan was prepared when the property was owned by William Ruger.		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
Work with ASLPT to develop a Request for Proposal	Wood	ASAP

**OLD BUSINESS – MONITORING OF SHERWOOD FOREST**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>		
Wood confirmed that monitoring of Sherwood Forest is planned for Friday Nov 6 at 9 AM with Brooks McCandlish. Buchanan and McArt plan to participate.		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
Monitor Sherwood Forest	Wood, Buchanan, McArt	Nov 6, 2020

**OLD BUSINESS – SHORELAND CUTTING APPLICATIONS**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>		
Two applications for tree removal have been approved. Ryan noted that one was a request for the removal of 6 white ash in anticipation of their death from the emerald ash borer, the first request of its kind in Grantham. None of the trees were within 50 feet of the shore, and the application was approved.		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
None		

**OLD BUSINESS – GOOGLE MAP CORRECTIONS**

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

**NEW BUSINESS – MEETING OF LOCAL CONSERVATION COMMISSIONS**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>		
Wood announced that he had attended a meeting together with representatives of other local conservation commissions sponsored by Ausbon Sargent. Of interest was the proposal that the commissions submit periodic reports of their activities to the Union Record as a mechanism to keep their communities informed. Because the Union Record is not widely read in Grantham, Wood declined the invitation, but opined to the GCC that the idea of submitting periodic news items to the Grantham News or even the Kearsarge Shopper might serve to educate the community on the activities of the commission. After some discussion, McArt agreed to draft an article and work with Emily Owen to make the GCC website more attractive and informative. It was suggested, for example, to put trail maps and/or pictures of our open spaces on the site.		
Wood also noted that some towns are frustrated by the lack of enforcement they receive from the NHDES. In response, they are writing their own ordinances. That action is raising concerns that NH might end up with a patchwork of different ordinances. Garland noted that Grantham is working on an ordinance that will reflect the existing NH ordinance.		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
Draft an article relevant to the GCC	McArt	none
Work with Owen to make the GCC web site more attractive	McArt	none

**NEW BUSINESS – CONTRIBUTIONS**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>		
Wood noted that the GCC has in the past contributed to NHACC, ASLPT and SPNHF. It last contributed to SPNHF in Feb 2020, so he recommended deferring further contribution until next year. Susan Buchanan moved that the GCC contribute \$275 to renew its membership in the NH Association of Conservation Commissions and \$100 as a donation to Ausbon Sargent. The motion was seconded by McArt. There being no further discussion, the motion was put to a vote. <b>Unanimously Approved &amp; Accepted</b>		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
Initiate payment	Wood	ASAP

**HANDOUTS**

None

**NEXT MEETING**

If in person meeting are then permissible, the next meeting of the Grantham Conservation Commission will be held in person in the Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room on Monday, Dec. 7, 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 Buchanan. **Unanimously Approved & Accepted**  
The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

David Wood  
Grantham Conservation Commission Chair