

Grantham Conservation Commission

MINUTES

AUGUST 21, 2017

300 ROUTE 10 SOUTH, GRANTHAM, NH

MEETING CALLED BY	Chairman David Wood
TYPE OF MEETING	Regular Meeting of the Conservation Commission
FACILITATOR	Richard Hocker
NOTE TAKER	Nikki Arsenault
COMMISSION MEMBERS	Richard Hocker, Dennis Ryan, Sue Buchanan, John Larrabee
ABSENT	Chairman David Wood, Rich Kaszeta, Laura Nagy
OTHER VISITORS	N/A

Richard Hocker called the Grantham Conservation Commission to order on Monday, August 18, 2017 at 7:06 p.m. The meeting was held in the Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room at Grantham Town Hall located at 300 Route 10 South in Grantham, NH.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FOR JULY 17, 2017 MEETING

DISCUSSION		
Hocker asked if there were any additions, corrections, or modification to the draft meeting minutes for the July 17, 2017 meeting.		
The following corrections were suggested:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">No changes or corrections were suggested.		
CONCLUSIONS		
There being no additional changes to the minutes, Hocker announced that he would entertain a motion to approve the July 17, 2017.		
A motion was made by Ryan to approve the July 17, 2017 minutes; second by Larrabee. There being no further discussion, the motion was put to a vote.		
Unanimously Approved & Accepted		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Meeting minutes for this meeting will be completed within five business days.	Nikki Arsenault	08/28/2017

OLD BUSINESS – SHORELINE CUTTING APPLICATIONS – LARRABEE

DISCUSSION			
Larrabee updated that there are seven new cutting applications; all but the following two have been reviewed by the Select Board:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Webber – Shore RoadBrown – Road Round the Lake			
CONCLUSION			
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
None at this time.			

OLD BUSINESS – RECOMMENDATION TO SUPPORT CLIMATE ACTION

DISCUSSION		
Hocker noted that Commission members had a chance to view the letter that Chairman Wood sent out. The Energy Committee elected not to support the adoption of this action. Hocker noted that the issue before the Commission is to vote to decide if they are in support of this initiative as a whole. Discussion ensued regarding the pros and cons of supporting or voicing opposition this initiative.		
CONCLUSIONS		
The Commission moved to not submit this to the Grantham Selectmen at this time and to instead table it permanently. Hocker asked for a motion to this affect: Ryan made a motion to table this initiative permanently. Buchanan seconded.		
Unanimously Approved & Accepted		
	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None at this time.		

OLD BUSINESS – TRAIL FINDER GPS – ALL

DISCUSSION		
This item will be tabled until the next meeting when all Commission members are present for updates.		
CONCLUSIONS		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None at this time.		

OLD BUSINESS – HANDICAPPED SIGNAGE AT BROOKSIDE PARK - KASZETA

DISCUSSION		
This item will be tabled until the next meeting when all Commission members are present for updates.		
CONCLUSIONS		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None at this time.		

OLD BUSINESS – HUNT FOR GRANTHAM HISTORY – KASZETA / NAGY

DISCUSSION			
This item will be tabled until the next meeting when all Commission members are present for updates.			
CONCLUSIONS			
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
None at this time.			

OLD BUSINESS – SEPT 16TH HIKE TO LITTLE MT WASHINGTON & HAWK WATCH

DISCUSSION		
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Hocker announced that Chairman Wood would not be available on the 16th but could do the hike on the 17th. Hocker added that he would also be out of town from the 13th until the 18th. Buchanan noted that the 17th would be better for her as well.

CONCLUSIONS		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Hocker will follow up with Wood regarding the date of the hike.		

OLD BUSINESS – WARRANT FOR BOND OPTION / CURRENT STATUS OF RUGER PROPERTY – HOCKER

DISCUSSION		
<p>Hocker announced that the hearing for the draft of the Grantham Master Plan will take place on September 7th at 7:00pm in the lower level of the Town Building. He encouraged the Commission members to review this document and to attend the hearing, if possible. Hocker noted that he believes that the most pressing priorities for the warrant for bond option will be public awareness and education.</p> <p>Hocker informed the Commission members that the Ruger property is 380 acres (3 lots total) located on Old Dunbar Hill Road. It has been heavily timbered and at the present time it is no longer on the market. Hocker noted that this property would be best covered by a conservation easement; this topic will need to be addressed again in the near future with Chairman Wood and Selectman Brown.</p>		
CONCLUSIONS		
Discussion on this topic will continue at the next meeting when all Commission members are present for updates.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None at this time.		

OTHER BUSINESS – LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES - LARRABEE

DISCUSSION		
<p>Larrabee noted that he is listed as the primary steward for both the Brookside Park and Eastman (Trail 6) Little Free Libraries. With regard to the upcoming winter, he would like to entertain the idea that Dunbar Free Library is using; they have various people signed up as stewards for the winter months so that the libraries can still be used during the winter. He noted that the Brookside Park library has already turned over one and a half times since its opening. He continued that the Commission could try to keep it open and if it's not being used actively, they can always decide to cover it for the remaining winter months. He will continue to stock the Brookside library with nature-themed books until he runs out. Following a question from Buchanan, Larrabee noted that he checks on the library approximately once per week.</p>		
CONCLUSIONS		
This topic will be revisited at the September meeting.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None at this time.		

OTHER BUSINESS – BUCHANAN

DISCUSSION		
<p>Buchanan noted that she is now required to attend a work meeting that conflicts with every other GCC meeting. She wants to determine if the GCC can potentially switch the monthly meeting to a different day. She also offered to switch her status to alternate if that is better for the Commission. Following some discussion, the Commission members agreed that the second Monday of each month (rather than the third Monday) could potentially work as an alternate meeting date.</p>		
CONCLUSIONS		
Hocker will discuss this item with Chairman Wood.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
This item will be re-visited again at the September meeting.		

ADJOURNMENT

Hocker asked if there was any further business. There being none, Larrabee moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m. and Buchanan seconded the motion.

The Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Grantham Conservation Commission will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room on Monday, September 18, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,



Nikki Arsenault

DRAFT