

**Town of Newport, NH
Newport Conservation Commission
Minutes of August 21, 2018
6:30 PM
Board of Selectmen's Room/Municipal Building
15 Sunapee Street/Newport, NH**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Stanley Hannum, Chairman; Linda Dennis, Ken Dennis

MEMBERS ABSENT: Clifford Richer, Alternate; Kristen Boffo, Alternate

STAFF PRESENT: none

VIDEOGRAPHER: Louis Cassorla, NCTV

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Hannum called the Conservation Commission meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. followed by a roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA REVIEW: accepted as presented.

MINUTES: On a motion by Mr. Dennis, seconded by Mrs. Dennis; *the minutes of the May 22, 2018 meeting were approved as presented. The motion passed 3-0-0.*

NEW BUSINESS:

Chairman Hannum read aloud a letter sent to the Planning and Zoning Office from the Upper Valley Land Trust (UFLT) requesting a Newport BOS endorsement. The Commission members discussed the possibility of a Selectboard endorsement of the UFLT fundraising campaign for Beaver Pond Farm (located in Newport, NH).

Monitoring Properties

Chairman Hannum addressed the Commission members and asked if anyone had completed their monitoring responsibilities.

The properties in question:

- ❖ Johnson-Ken Dennis and Cliff Richer
- ❖ Barton-Stanley Hannum
- ❖ Wells-Linda Dennis and Cliff Richer
- ❖ Yeomans-Linda Dennis and Cliff Richer

None of the properties had been monitored as of the August 21, 2018 Conservation Commission meeting.

There was a discussion on the joint State/ Town effort in which a stone wall had been constructed around the Shepherd property which abuts the Barton Conservation Land. Mr. Ken Dennis gave details for the Commission members. Mr. Dennis stated the State had invested \$39,000 into the Barton Property. A resolution to the ongoing problems has been a long process.

Commission members needed to continue to monitor the Barton land to ensure there weren't further infractions. Members brainstormed various ways to do this. Chairman Hannum will speak to Town Manager Rieseberg about the Barton conservation land.

Follow-up Johnson Land Appraisal

Mrs. Dennis told the Commission that she had been told the cost of the survey done on the Johnson Land was \$2,000. The Commission had initially told Mr. Gladders that the Conservation Commission would not be interested in paying more than ½ or \$1,000 of the appraisal. She told the Commission that they were being asked to pay \$1,000.

Mr. Ken Dennis stated the Commission could not move forward with a payment until consulting Finance Director Brown. After a brief discussion, the Commission stated they would consider this new tract of land the Jolyon and Dode Johnson Property (Newport already has a Johnson property).

Mr. Ken Dennis made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Linda Dennis; ***that the Conservation Commission does not pay more than \$1,000 for the appraisal of the Jolyon/Dode Johnson Land. The motion passed 3-0-0.***

Mrs. Dennis asked if the Commission would like Mr. Dode Gladder to attend the next Conservation Commission meeting and speak. It was decided that Mrs. Dennis would invite him to the September 25, 2018 meeting.

SB 365 & SB 446

Chairman Hannum stated he had not asked to have this put on the agenda. After a short discussion, the Commissioners moved to the next agenda item.

Replacement of trees on the Common

Mr. Dennis updated the Commission members on the upkeep of current trees as well as trees that needed to be replaced on the Common. After answering member's questions, Mr. Dennis made an appeal to the viewing public for donations for replacement trees on the Common.

New Commission members

Mr. Dennis then addressed the viewing public and solicited their involvement by joining the Conservation Commission and the work it is doing in Newport to maintain its lands.

There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. Dennis, seconded by Mrs. Dennis; ***the Conservation Commission voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:10 p.m.***

Respectfully submitted,

Maura Stetson
Scribe

Approved: September XX, 2018