

**Town of Newport, NH
Newport Conservation Commission
Minutes of October 16, 2019
6:30 PM
Board of Selectmen's Room/Municipal Building
15 Sunapee Street/Newport, NH**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Stanley Hannum, Chairman; Linda Dennis, Clifford Richer, Alternate; Barry Connell, BOS Representative

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ken Dennis

STAFF PRESENT: Liz Emerson, Zoning Administrator

VIDEOGRAPHER: John Lunn

GUEST: none

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

AGENDA REVIEW: accepted as presented

MINUTES: August 21, 2019

Minutes of August 21, 2019

On a motion by Mr. Richer, seconded by Mr. Connell; *the Commission approved the minutes of the July 24, 2019 meeting as presented. The motion passed 4-0-0.*

ADMINISTRATION:

Gilman Pond Walk

After a short discussion, members decided that they would meet with Laura French and/or Jeremy Turner along with Todd Cartier for the Gilman Pond walk on November 9, 2019 at 1 p.m. The walk will be noticed, Mrs. Dennis will take minutes.

Project List/Wish List/Budget and Timeline from Conservation Commission

Ms. Emerson explained that the project wish list refers to any project the Conservation Commission would like to have done that will need Town funding. She explained the Commission will make a timeline, draft it and present it to the BOS to ask for funding. Ms. Emerson asked members to write down projects as they come up and the Commission could present them to the BOS.

Mrs. Dennis stated that replacing trees on the Common was one. Mr. Dennis would be asked what types of trees would be best. They would discuss and decide as a Commission the type of tree at the next meeting.

Boundary Grade Stakes Backordered

Ms. Emerson addressed the Commission and stated the boundary stakes have not come in, they have not been ordered yet by the state. They will come in six foot lengths (they are no longer 4 feet, they are 6 feet) and are galvanized metal.

Annual Reports

Assignments for monitoring 2019:

Need to be done:

Wells: Mrs. Dennis

Yeomans: Mrs. Dennis

Report needs to be passed in:

Johnson: Mr. Richer

Chairman Hannum and Ms. Emerson talked about the information that is now being sent to the Society for the protection of NH Forests. The Society will be sent reports annually on the Yeomans and Wells properties.

CONTINUED BUSINESS:

Mr. Connell stated that the Commission had asked him to mention to the BOS their desire to have the Town deed the island to the Conservation Commission.

From minutes of August 21, 2019:

Chandler Mill Properties and Deeds

Ms. Emerson stated that the Conservation Commission was in charge of the two properties in question from July 24, 2019. If the Conservation Commission disbanded then the land would go to the Town. The deeds state they are to stay as open space. The Town owns the little island by Claremont. Members stated that maybe the Town would donate the little island to the Conservation Commission for conservation purposes. Mr. Connell, BOS Representative, would ask the BOS and Town Manager if the island could be deeded to the Conservation Commission.

Mr. Connell said it “would not happen”. When asked the reason, Mr. Connell said that the BOS did not feel that they wanted to do anything with it at this time.

There was a short discussion on the island and deeding it to the Conservation Commission for protective purposes.

Chairman Hannum stated he will term it, “still in progress”.

Ms. Emerson addressed the Commissioners and read aloud from Newport’s Land Management and Assessment Book from Meadowsend Timberland, Ltd. She was in contact with forester Laura French concerning conservation easements in the Gilman Pond easement area.

There was a general discussion on easements and restricted water usage in the Gilman Pond easement area.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Chairman Hannum asked if the apartments in the Newport Mills were going forward. Mr. Connell stated yes and explained.
2. Chairman Hannum asked Mr. Connell if there will be any way to get the path from the Mill to Main Street (along the river) back to a usable area. Mr. Connell stated that it has been discussed. Mr. Lacasse wants to get that done. He is planning on spending \$20,000,000 on the project. He is getting the necessary funding now.

Mr. Connell said Kevin Lacasse is a man of his word. He will get it done.

3. Chairman Hannum asked about the Oak Street Bridge project. Mr. Connell stated it was done. There will be a dedication of the bridge in the future.

There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. Richer, seconded by Mrs. Dennis; *the Conservation Commission voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:55 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

Maura Stetson

Scribe

Approved: November XX, 2019

DRAFT