



TOWN OF HUDSON

Conservation Commission



Ken Dickinson, Chairman

Dave Morin, Selectmen Liaison

12 School Street • Hudson, New Hampshire 03051 • Tel: 603-886-6008 • Fax: 603-816-1291

DATE: January 14, 2018

MEETING MINUTES: Below is a listing of minutes for the Hudson Conservation Commission. Minutes are not a verbatim record of each meeting, but rather represent a summary of the discussion and actions taken at the meeting. All Conservation Commission meetings are televised live and repeated during the following week on HCTV, Cable Television Channel 22. Official copies of the minutes are available to read and copy at the Town Engineer's Office during regular business hours (Monday through Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.).

Should you have any questions concerning these minutes or wish to see the original recording, please contact the Town Engineer's Office at (603)-886-6008.

A regular meeting of the Hudson Conservation Commission (HCC) was held in the Board of Selectmen Conference Room of Town Hall.

Roll Call

Ken Dickinson Chairman <u> X </u>	Randy Brownrigg Vice-Chair <u> X </u>	Elliott Veloso Secretary <u> X </u>	William Collins Member <u> X </u>
Michael Tsu Member <u> X </u>	Michael Drouin Member <u> X </u>	Brett Gagnon Member <u> X </u>	Paula Hubert Alternate <u> X </u>
Jennifer Parkhurst Alternate <u> X </u>	David Morin Select. Rep. <u> X </u>	Elvis Dhima Town Staff <u> X </u>	

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Call to Order

Called to Order at 7:03 P.M. by Vice-Chairman Randy Brownrigg

Seating of Alternates

None.

Public Input Related to Non-Agenda Items.

None.

I. OLD BUSINESS

None.

II. NEW BUSINESS

A. Conservation Commission Bylaws.

Mr. Veloso reviewed the current draft of the bylaws with the other commissioners. Mr. Dickinson proposed amendments to the order of business, having no new items after 9:00 PM, and having two to three alternate members instead of the five. Mr. Gagnon inquired if a subcommittee should be assembled to review the bylaws. Selectman Morin advised that a workshop would be a better approach, given the number of subcommittees that are already active. Mr. Collins stated that he did not see anything in the proposed bylaws that would preclude approval at this meeting. Mr. Dhima advised to not "let perfection be the enemy of the good," and to hold a workshop after the bylaws are approved to work out issues. Mr. Gagnon expressed support of that approach. Mr. Gagnon inquired about what would happen in the event there was a conflict or issues in the bylaws. Mr. Veloso stated that in the event of a conflict or dispute over the legality of a bylaw, the commission would default back to state law as the controlling authority.

Motion made to accept the bylaws as currently presented.

Motion by: Michael Drouin

Seconded by: Brett Gagnon

Vote: For: 6 Opposed: 1 Abstain: 0

Mr. Gagnon inquired about scheduling a workshop now. Mr. Dickinson advised scheduling a workshop after a following meeting when schedules are more settled.

For more information, please refer to the meeting recording on HCTV-ch22.

B. Annual Elections for Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary

Mr. Brownrigg advised the commission that only sitting members, and not alternatives, could vote in the election. Mr. Gagnon made a statement before voting regarding his work on the commission, his interest in more efficient meetings going forward, and his withdrawal from consideration as Chairman in this election.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Motion made to nominate Randy Brownrigg.

Motion by: William Collins

Seconded by: Elliott Veloso

Motion made to nominate Michael Drouin.

Motion by: Brett Gagnon

Seconded by: Michael Tsu

Vote: Randy Brownrigg: 4

Michael Drouin: 3

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Motion made to nominate Brett Gagnon.

Motion by: William Collins

Seconded by: Randy Brownrigg

Vote: Brett Gagnon: 7

ELECTION OF CLERK

Motion made to nominate Elliott Veloso.

Motion by: William Collins

Seconded by: Brett Gagnon

Vote: Elliott Veloso: 7

C. Guertin Parcel Status: Schedule Site Walk/Trial Work Day

The commissioners discuss the dimensions of the property and inquire about whether it maintains a conservation easement. Chairman Dickinson and Commissioners Gagnon and Drouin, schedule a site walk on December 16, 2018 at 10:00 AM-12:00 PM to walk the parcel.

III. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Discussion on Guertin Parcel and Merrill Park

Mr. Collins informed the commissioners that a meeting of the Merrill Park Subcommittee would be held on January 16 at the Hudson Town Library.

Mr. Drouin informed the commissioners that he had been informed by Selectman Coutu of an old tax taking resolution for a parcel of land that had been taken via tax taking that could potentially be acquired for conservation purposes. The commissioners discussed potential approaches toward the potential acquisition of the parcel. Mr. Veloso proposed presenting the tax taking to the Town Administrator, and potentially town counsel to determine if the tax taking was still valid based on its age.

Motion made that the resolution be provided to the Town Administrator for an assessment of its continued validity.

Motion by: Elliott Veloso
Seconded by: William Collins

Vote: For: 7 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0

For more information, please refer to the meeting recording on HCTV-ch22.

B. Update on Tools

Randy Brownrigg updated the commissioners on the status of the tools. Selectman Morin informed the commissioners that a storage area for the equipment had been reserved in Benson Park. The commissioners discussed arraignments to be made for the prerequisite training required for the use of the tools. Mr. Brownrigg mentioned that the manufacturer of the equipment had trainers available that could provide training. Selectman Morin noted that if the commissioners decided to pursue tool training with the manufacturer's representative, the town would need a type of certificate to be submitted to the town as proof that the training was performed. The commissioners discussed potential scheduling of the training session.

For more information, please refer to the meeting recording on HCTV-ch22.

Selectman Morin informed the commission that the town did not receive grant funding for the development of the Circumvential Highway, and that at this point, the development of the project was a dead issue. Selectman Morin informed the commission that with the lack of federal funding, the town would not be moving forward. Mr. Gagnon inquired if the state was considering proposing funding the project. Selectman Morin stated that with a funding cost of \$45 million, the state was not interested in funding the project. Ms. Parkhurst inquired that if the Circumvential Highway was a dead issue, should the Conservation Commission investigate options to preserve the land for conservation purposes. Mr. Dhima cautioned the commission that given the bondholder interests in the project, there would be little incentive to convert the project to anything other than the proposed highway. Mr. Dhima cautioned that efforts could be better spent on other matters given the commission's list of current priorities. Mr. Gagnon and Mrs. Parkhurst suggested that research into potential options should be pursued.

Motion made to have Mrs. Parkhurst perform research on the potential options to obtaining the land for the Circumvential Highway for conservation purposes.

Motion by: Randy Brownrigg
Seconded by: Michael Drouin

Vote: For: 6 Opposed: 1 Abstain: 0

For more information, please refer to the meeting recording on HCTV-ch22.

IV. FINANCIAL STATUS

The Commissioners discussed financial status. No major changes noted.

V. CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Brownrigg noted one piece of correspondence: the Conservation Commission's Annual Town Report.

VI. Approval of Minutes

A. December 10, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion to accept December 10, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes as amended.

Motion by: Randy Brownrigg

Seconded by: Michael Drouin

Vote: For: 7 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0

VII. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Mr. Drouin noted stated that he had performed a walkthrough at Mushquash Park and encouraged the commissioners to perform a walkthrough. The commissioners scheduled a trail walk for February 3, from 9:00 to 10:00 AM for all available commissioners.

Mr. Dickinson informed the commissioners of a letter he received from Mr. and Mrs. Bartlett, 35 Weymouth Court thanking the Conservation Commission for its assistance in granting a permit to allow for tree clearing behind their property.

Mr. Gagnon suggested scheduling a time to hold a meeting to review the difference between conservation easements versus land purchases. Mr. Tsu suggested a separate workshop.

Mr. Collins suggested to the commissioners to think of any long term projects that the commissioners would like to pursue to put them on a "bucket list" for project planning, such as a sunken bridge at Musquash.

Mrs. Parkhurst noted observing several illegal dumping spots while hiking and proposed scheduling a cleanup day. Mr. Brownrigg suggested scheduling a cleanup day in the spring.

Mr. Browrigg cautioned all the commissioners on the use of social media. Mr. Browrigg encouraged the commissioners to keep on topic during meetings and to continue to respect one another.

Selectman Morin recognized Mr. Dickinson for his work as Chairman and congratulated the newly elected officers. Mr. Dickinson thanked the commission for their work and interest in the community. Mr. Dickinson stated that he looked forward to continuing to serve the commission

as a regular member.

A motion was made to adjourn:

Motion by: Randy Brownrigg

Seconded by: William Collins

Vote: For: 7 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0

Meeting Adjourned at 9:09 P.M.



Elliott Veloso, Secretary