



TOWN OF HUDSON

Conservation Commission



Randy Brownrigg, Chairman

Dave Morin, Selectmen Liaison

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DATE: May 13, 2019

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

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

Call to Order: 7:00 PM.

Seating of Alternates: Jennifer Parkhurst seated as member at 7:02 PM.

I. Public Input Related to Non-Agenda Items.

None.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Quotes received for asbestos study at Merrill Park.

Mr. Collins informed the Commission that he received a set of three quotes from Endport, Wilcox and Burton, and Aries Engineering for proposed asbestos testing at Merrill Park. Mr. Dhima reviewed all of the quotes and informed Mr. Collins that the proposed prices were in the range typical of such work. Mr. Collins discussed the proposals with the Commission and the services each offered. Mr. Collins reemphasized the potential value of the work.

The commissioners discussed the proposals and noted the worthwhile nature of the proposal. Chairman Brownrigg expressed his preference with the proposal from Aries Engineering, based on its price and the services offered.

Motion for Conservation Commission to support proposal for Aries Engineering for asbestos assessment at Merrill Park, dated May 2, 2019, File No. 2019-026.

Motion by: Brett Gagnon
Seconded by: William Collins

Vote: For: 7 Opposed: _____ Abstain: _____

Motion to have Mr. Collins present to the Board of Selectmen a proposal to test for asbestos at Merrill Park and to have Mr. Dhima speak at the presentation.

Motion by: Elliott Veloso
Seconded by: Brett Gagnon

Vote: For: 7 Opposed: _____ Abstain: _____

B. Update on tools.

Chairman Brownrigg deferred the matter to the next meeting.

C. Renaming Rangers Drive

Ms. Parkhurst updated the Commissioners on her research into the history of the property at Rangers Drive with the Town's Historical Society. Out of the research conducted, three names were proposed for consideration:

1. Ranger Town Forest
2. Bagley Farm Town Forest
3. Mellen Town Forest

Mr. Collins expressed the opinion of allowing Ms. Parkhurst reach out to the public to determine local interest in renaming the property.

Motion to authorize Ms. Parkhurst to create a poll of residents of the town to vote on the three suggested names in the appropriate town medium.

Motion by: Brett Gagnon

Seconded by: William Collins

Vote: For: 7 Opposed: _____ Abstain: _____

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

D. Renaming Guertin Parcel

Chairman Brownrigg deferred the matter to the next meeting.

E. Kimball Hill Town Forest – Timber Harvest

Chairman Brownrigg informed the commissioners that he went to the Town Administrator to review the contract for the timber harvest in the Town Forest. Chairman Brownrigg stated that due to the wet and cold weather conditions throughout the spring, the harvest had to be rescheduled to June. Mr. Dickinson inquired about plans to walk with the bidder to assess site conditions. Ms. Parkhurst inquired about using postings or public notices to alert the public when the harvest occurred.

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

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Wetland Special Exception Application for 161 Lowell Road; Map 209/Lot 001-000.

Applicant discussed with the Commission the proposed work to be done at the location, the limited impact on the property, and the improvements that would be done in conjunction with the road construction to remediate any wetland impacts, such as the construction of a sedimentation basin. Mr. Gagnon asked the applicant several questions regarding the impact of the proposed construction and project. During public hearing, no opposition expressed by members of the public.

No wetland impacts or new proposed drainage piping or systems associated with improvements proposed other than reshaping of roadside shoulders and swales. Buffer impacts were noted as limited. Erosion control will be provided in keeping with natural indigenous flora, and the roadway will be built to town requirements.

Motion to move to recommend to the Zoning Board of Appeals the granting of a special wetland exception as part of the extension of Friars Drive for the proposed multi-family development at 161 Lowell Road.

Motion by: William Collins

Seconded by: Randy Brownrigg

Vote: Favorable 4 Unfavorable 3 Abstain _____

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

B. Old Home Days Application Review.

Chairman Brownrigg discussed the cost scheduling for having the Conservation Commission share a tent with other committees on Old Homes Days. The other commissioners expressed potential interest in the arraignment. Commissioner coverage and potential activities was discussed.

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

C. Guest Speaker – Chris Wells from the Land Trust Piscataquog Land Conservancy.

Mr. Wells of the Land Trust Piscataquog Land Conservancy addressed the Commission regarding the potential use of conservation easements as a tool to preserve land. Mr. Wells discussed the current easements maintained by the trust, and the activities that they employ to ensure conservation land is maintained for such purposes. Mr. Gagnon inquired about the use of conservation easements when compared to fee simple arraignments. Mr. Wells discussed the implications of both approaches. Chairman Brownrigg inquired about the kind of deed language employed in conservation easements. Mr. Gagnon inquired as to why Hudson was “bypassed” by the land conservancy in the past. Mr. Wells replied that issues in the past were due to geography and lack of expansion across the Merrimack River in the past. Chairman Brownrigg inquired about whether fees were necessary for involvement in the trust. Mr. Wells replied that no dues or ongoing commitments were required for the land conservancy’s services.

The Commissioners thanked Mr. Wells for his time and input regarding the pros and cons of conservation easements. Mr. Wells informed the Commission about the trusts openness to collaborate with the community.

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

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

V. FINANCIAL STATUS

Chairman Brownrigg reviewed the budget and recent financial expenditures with the Commission.

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

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

Chairman Brownrigg reviewed the correspondence received by the Commission, highlighting the Lake Host Program at Lake Laconia Conference.

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

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to accept April 8, 2019 Meeting Minutes.

Motion by: William Collins
Seconded by: Elliott Veloso

Vote: For: 7 Opposed: _____ Abstain: _____

Motion to accept April 15, 2019 Special Meeting Minutes.

Motion by: Brett Gagnon
Seconded by: William Collins

Vote: For: 7 Opposed: _____ Abstain: _____

Motion to accept April 15, 2019 Non-Public Meeting Minutes.

Motion by: William Collins
Seconded by: Randy Brownrigg

Vote: For: 7 Opposed: _____ Abstain: _____

VI. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Chairman Dickinson expressed interest in looking at land trusts and conservation easements as another tool to maintain conservation land, particularly for agricultural purposes.

Ms. Parkhurst discussed making further arraignments for trail cleanup days.

Mr. Drouin expressed a desire about examining the commission's bylaws at the next meeting.

Mr. Gagnon proposed setting up a workshop with the Board of Selectmen to review land purchase procedures.

A motion was made to adjourn:

Motion by: Brett Gagnon
Seconded by: Elliott Veloso

Vote: For: 7 Opposed: _____ Abstain: _____

Meeting Adjourned at 9:09 PM.



Elliott Veloso, Secretary