



# TOWN OF HUDSON

## Conservation Commission



Jim Battis, Chairman

Nancy Brucker, Selectmen Liaison

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**DATE: 10 February 2014**

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 Community Development Conference Room of Town Hall.

**Members of the Commission present:** J Battis, K Dickinson, P Dubay, R Jurewicz

**Members of the Commission excused:** R. Brownrigg

**Members of the Commission absent:** None

**Member of Town Staff present:** None

**Board of Selectman Representative excused:** N Brucker

**Seating of Alternates:** None

Called to Order at 7:06 pm.

### **I. PUBLIC INPUT RELATED TO NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

None

### **II. OLD BUSINESS**

None

### **III. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. New England Cottontail Initiative  
Ted Kendziora, Wildlife Biologist  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Concord, NH

Mr Kendziora was unable to attend this meeting and will be scheduled for a later date.

- B. Election of Officers

- 1. Chairmen

- Mr Jurewicz nominated James Battis for chairmen with second by Mr Dickinson. No other nominations were made. The vote for Mr Battis was 3 in favor with none opposed and one abstention (Mr. Battis).

- 2. Vice Chairmen

- Mrs Dubay nominated Ken Dickinson for vice chairmen with second by Mr. Jurewicz. No other nominations were made. The vote for Mr Dickinson was 4 in favor with none opposed.

- 3. Secretary

- Mr Battis stated that the role of Secretary has been largely subsumed into the Chairmen for the past five or more years. The major role of the Secretary is preparation of minutes. Mr Battis opened the floor to nominations but, hearing none, left the position open.

### **IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

- A. Stewardship of Conserved Lands

Mr Battis noted that the NRPC has submitted a revised Musquash Conservation Land Trail Map containing most of the proposed revisions suggested by the Commission and other interested parties.

Mr Battis noted that the Town Engineer, Mr Colburn, had checked the numbers that Mr Battis had presented at the January meeting regarding funding of herbicide treatments at Robinson and Ottarnic Pond. Mr Colburn, using more up-to-date numbers indicated that the net cost from the Conservation Fund would be about \$500 significantly less than the amount Mr Battis had estimated.

Mr Battis turned the meeting over to Mr Dickinson to discuss several trail projects he proposed. Mr Dickinson, before proceeding with that discussion requested that the Commission consider approval of the minutes out of order.

## V. Minutes

### **Motion to approve the 13 January 2014 minutes as amended.**

Motion by: K Dickinson

Second by: P Dubay

Vote: For 4 Opposed 0 Abstain 0

## VI. Financial Status

Mr Battis noted that the only financial action for January was the interest payment of \$7.16 on the Conservation Fund. A \$37,000 deposit to the Conservation Fund was not identified but could be either the Invasive Species grant rebate or the 50% contribution of the Timber Tax. This will need to be identified for the next meeting.

## VII. Correspondence

None

## VIII. OTHER BUSINESS (resumed)

### A. Stewardship of Conserved Lands

Mr Dickinson asked a question that could not be definitively answered at this time. Would purchase of the materials be sufficient by 30 June or would the proposed project need to be completed by that date for funding under the expiring trail grant. Mr Battis stated he would check this with the State to get a definitive answer.

Mr. Dickinson then proceeded to detail a list of potential projects requiring funding that would likely be eligible for funding under the trail grant. The total budget for these items was estimated to be approximately \$7,236. Mr Dickinson noted the requirements to complete a loop trail at the Town Forest included a short boardwalk to avoid a seasonally wet area. A second project was the replacement of a bridge between First and Second Swamp in the Musquash Conservation Land. The required span could be over 60 feet.

Members of the Commission discussed the proposed projects and suggested holding a workshop to discuss the possible trail projects and to seek public comment, particularly on the value of replacing the bridge between First and Second Swamp as this would be a significant undertaking. Consideration was made to endorse a budget for the effort, however, it was noted that the details of cash flow for to prepay trail grant efforts needs to be considered.

### **Motion to hold a Conservation Land Trail Planning Workshop on 27 February 2014 at 7:00 pm at a location to be determined.**

Motion by: K Dickinson

Seconded by: P Dubay

Vote: For 4 Opposed 0 Abstain 0

## IX. Commissioner's Comments

Mr Dickinson stated that he appreciated the commission's input and it was his goal to get the Commission to put serious thought into potential uses for the trail grant funds and not allow the funds to expire.

Mr Jurewicz stated that he appreciated the effort that Mr Dickinson put into preparing the discussion.

Mrs Dubay echoed Mr Jurewicz's sentiments and did hope that the trail grant be utilized as much as possible.

Mr. Battis noted that the Commission has openings for both full and alternate members.

**Motion to adjourn.**

Motion: P Dubay

Seconded: R Jurewicz

Vote: For   4   Opposed   0   Abstain   0  

Meeting Adjourned at 9:20 pm.

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James Battis, Chairman