



TOWN OF HUDSON

Conservation Commission



Randy Brownrigg, Chairman

Dave Morin, Selectmen Liaison

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

DATE: October 19, 2020

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.

In attendance = X Alternates Seated = S Partial Attendance = P Excused Absence = E

Randy Brownrigg
Chairman E

William Collins
Vice-Chair X

Brett Gagnon
Member X

Ken Dickinson
Member X

Elliott Veloso
Member X

Paula Hubert
Alternate X (Remote)

David Morin
Select. Rep. E

Elvis Dhima
Town Engineer X

- I. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRPERSON AT 07:00 P.M.
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- III. ROLL CALL
- IV. SEATING OF ALTERNATES

Mrs. Hubert seated for Mr. Brownrigg

- V. Public Input Related to Non-Agenda Items:

Mr. Richard Empey of 104 Musquash Road, came forward to speak to see if the Conservation Commission would be willing to partner with the Benson Committee on a joint project concerning Swan Pond at Bensons Park. Mr. Empey stated that the water quality and depth in the pond has progressively worsened due to the ongoing drought and buildup of organic matter on the bottom of the pond. He added that after consulting with the Town Engineer, and Highway Superintend a plan of oxygenating the pond was seen as the best approach to the problem. Mr. Empey went on to say that the Benson Committee lacks the funding to pay for the project and was here tonight to see if the commission would be willing to pay for the system or at least part of it. The members present felt that this was a worthy expense to take on because Swan Pond is upstream from Ottarnic Pond and any improvement in water quality upstream of Ottarnic would have a positive effect.

Mr. Gagnon moved to expend no more than \$4,600.00 from the Conservation Commissions Professional Services fund 06-4619-5586-252-000 for the purchase of the Airmax Aeration System which will be used to improve water quality at Swan Pond. Mr. Dickinson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4/0/0. Rollcall votes noted below.

William Collins	Brett Gagnon	Ken Dickinson	Paula Hubert
Vice-Chair Yes	Member Yes	Member Yes	Seated Member Yes

VI. Old Business

A. Parking Area at Musquash Pond.

Commission members reviewed three tree removal quotes that were gathered as part of the improved parking area at Musquash Pond. Members presented selected Technical Tree Service at a cost of \$3200.00 to provide the service.

Mr. Gagnon moved to choose Technical Tree Service at a cost of \$3200.00 to remove trees within the confines of the proposed improved Musquash Pond Parking Area. Mr. Veloso seconded the motion. Motion carried 5/0/0 roll call votes noted below.

William Collins	Brett Gagnon	Elliott Veloso	Jennifer Parkhurst	Paula Hubert
Vice-Chair yes	Member yes	Member yes	Seated Member Yes	Seated Member Yes

B. Commission Member Warrant Article

Mr. Gagnon prepared a draft motion and supporting documentation for the purpose of increasing the number of Commission Members from 5 to 7 members. All members agree that this increase would help to spread the work load of the commission more evenly and aide in

getting work done more efficiently.

C. Trail Map update – No update to report.

VII. New Business

A. Ryan Clement, Troop 20, Hudson – Presentation on his proposed Eagle Scout Project to build a bike trail at Merrill Park in Hudson

B. Merrill Park Restart

Mr. Collins stated that he would like to see renewed interest in revitalizing Merrill Park for public use. He added that concepts were being discussed and some progress was being made at potential environmental improvements just before the pandemic hit and everything seemed to come to a halt. Mr. Collins asked if members would be interested in a site visit to the property to evaluate current conditions and to maybe come up with some suggestions for improvements that could be implemented this year or early next year.

Site visit to Merrill Park set for Sunday October 25th at 9:00 a.m.

C. Kiosk Installation- Mr. Collins stated he had finished the Kiosk for Musquash Pond. This kiosk will be installed near the new bridge and will have multiple maps showing trails located across the stream and span into the Pelham Gumpus Pond Conservation Area.

Planned installation following the Merrill Park site visit.

VIII. Other Business

A. None

IX. Financial Status

No outstanding issues. Current Conservation Fund is \$1,285,039.40

X. Correspondence

A letter submitted by Hudson resident William McDowell, 11 Heritage Circle. In the letter Mr. McDowell expresses his concerns about storm water runoff from the proposed Hudson Logistics Center and its impact on local waterways within the area of development.

A letter from the Lake Host Program regarding grant funding for the 2021 season. The correspondence references a “survey” that needs to be completed by local municipalities in order to be considered for the Lake Host program 2021 matching grant funding.

XI. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Veloso moved to except the amended September 14, 2020 regular meeting minutes and the amended September 15, 2020 non-public meeting minutes. Mr. Gagnon seconded the motion, motion carried 5/0/0 Rollcall votes noted below.

William Collins	Brett Gagnon	Elliott Veloso	Paula Hubert
Vice-Chair yes	Member yes	Member yes	Seated Member Yes

XII. Commissioner’s Comments

Mr. Gagnon and Mr. Dickinson both provided input on the Colburn property trails system. Mr. Gagnon stated that trail markings have been installed and only minor details need to be completed to consider this project a success. Mr. Dickinson added that he had been over to the property and concurred with Mr. Gagnon. He also stated that the markings had been adequately placed making navigation easy.

Mr. Collins stated that hunting season was underway in New Hampshire and that folks visiting the local properties should be aware that hunting is permitted on town property and that they should take the appropriate safety measure when hiking and dag walking.

With no other business to attended to Mr. Collins entertained a motion to adjourn.

Motion to adjourn:

Mr. Veloso moved to adjourn tonight’s meeting at 9:05 p.m. Motion seconded by Mr. Gagnon, Motion Carried 5/0/0

William Collins

William Collins, HCC Vice-Chairman