



TOWN OF HUDSON

Conservation Commission



Bill Collins, Chairman

Dave Morin, Selectmen Liaison

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DATE: October 18, 2021

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

William Collins
Chairman E

Ken Dickinson
Vice-Chair X

Randy Brownrigg
Secretary E

William Kallgren
Member X

Sandra Rumbaugh
Member X

David Morin
Select. Rep. X

Elvis Dhima
Town Staff X

Call to Order

Called to Order at 07:02 P.M. by Vice Chairman Ken Dickinson

Public Input Related to Non-Agenda Items: none

I. NEW BUSINESS

A. **Presentation by Nashua Regional Planning Commission regarding Project Award for Robinson Pond Watershed Study (Water Quality Report).**

Sara Siskavich, NRPC Assistant GIS Director, discussed the Water Quality Management Plan study that was recently awarded with the Commission. NRPC has requested that one member of the Conservation Commission serve on the “RFQ consultant selection committee” in 2021. The selected consultant will collect data in 2022 and provide a report containing specific BMP recommendations to increase the water quality of Robinson Pond and enhancing the current MS4 permit program. NRPC will manage this project for the Town. Two members of the Robinson Pond Association were present for this presentation in support of this project.

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

B. **Sign Purchasing Discussion:**

Vice Chair Dickinson requested a motion to purchase two additional “No Motorized Vehicle” signs for the Northern side of Musquash Conservation Area.

A motion was made and to authorize Chairman Collins to purchase two additional “No Motorized Vehicle” signs for Musquash Conservation Area.

Motion by: William Kallgren
Seconded by: Sandra Rumbaugh
Decision: 3-0-0

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

II. **OLD BUSINESS: None**

III. **OTHER BUSINESS**

A. **FY 2022-2023 Budget Discussion:**

Mrs. Rumbaugh stated that she allocated money with Elvis Dhima for the FY 2022-2023 budget. A 1.5% proposed increase is intended to be used for mainly for small tools, signs, etc. in effort to build new trails on our newly acquired conservation lands and support continuing trail maintenance work. Mr. Dhima will present our budget to the BOS on October 19th on behalf of the Commission.

Vice Chairman Dickinson had many of the same thoughts as Mrs. Rumbaugh as several conservation properties require signage. As discussed in previous CC meetings, he also noted that money should be budgeted for a Musquash Conservation Area forestry management plan

Mrs. Rumbaugh asked where the funds would be generated and Mr. Dhima replied that it could be presented as an “Out of Budget” request for the BOS to consider, however it would require a motion. Discussion followed on this topic.

Mr. Dickinson noted that there’s a need for invasive species treatment projects throughout most conservation areas with emphasis on removal of poison ivy, Japanese knotweed, and other invasive species along trails within the first mile of Musquash Conservation Area parking lot.

A motion was made to for Mr. Dhima to propose an “Out of Budget Request” to the Board of Selectmen in the amount of \$8,000.00 for professional services work associated with Forestry Management Plans at any conservation area.

Motion by: Sandra Rumbaugh
Seconded by: William Kallgren

Discussion continued regarding invasive species management within a wetland resource area which would require a permit to be filed by a NH licensed herbicide applicator.

Mr. Kallgren proposed to amend the motion to include invasive species management.

Amendment by: William Kallgren
Seconded by: Sandra Rumbaugh

Vote: For: 3 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0

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

IV. FINANCIAL STATUS

Discussion on financial tracking. Vice Chairman Dickinson noted that \$174.33 was expended in September from the Small Equipment maintenance account, however the Commission incurred no other expenses in September. Conservation Fund was holding flat throughout the past quarter. Mr. Dickinson noted to consider reviewing expenses on a quarterly basis versus monthly basis in effort to better understand our fiscal expenditures. He also raised a question regarding Land Use Change Tax process. Mr. Dhima will look into the timing of Land Use Change Tax transfer into the Conservation Fund.

Question was raised by Mrs. Rumbaugh in regards to the definition of encumbered monies and the process of encumbering money which was also answered by Mr. Dhima. Encumbered money is required when a budgeted task goes beyond the end of the fiscal year, i.e. pond treatment projects end in December versus June. Vice Chairman Dickinson further reviewed the budget categories with input and guidance from both Mr. Dhima and Selectmen Morin.

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

V. CORRESPONDENCE

The Vice Chairman reviewed the correspondence provide by staff for tonight's meeting after Commissioner's Comments agenda item. The correspondences consisted of the following:

Letter from Chairman Collins to Mr. Groth asking the Planning Board to expend Recreational Use Money in the amount of \$9,020.00 for trail mapping, website development, etc.

Notification from NHDES requesting more info from engineer for the 297 Central St. Wetland Dredge & Fill application.

Lake Host Program Payroll Summary indicating that there is approximately \$7,000.00 remaining on current grant funding indicating lack of Lake Host coverage. Mr. Dhima agreed to follow up with their current manager to confirm status.

Letter requesting NHACC Annual registration fee payment and reminder about NHACC Annual Conference to be held on November 6, 2021.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Conservation Commission deferred the approval of the September 13, 2021 meeting minutes to the next meeting.

VII. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Mrs. Rumbaugh presented an AMC map and discussed its features and graphical design content which could be used as a sample for future mapping projects. She encouraged the Commission to hold a town wide competition this winter in effort to develop a logo for all town trail maps.

Mr. Kallgren reminded everyone to wear long sleeve shirts and pants when performing trail work in effort to protect your skin from poison ivy.

Vice Chairman Dickinson reminded everyone of a Kimball Town Forest trail work day scheduled for Sunday, October 24, 2021 from 9-12. Recent blown downs should be cleared along the Ravine Trail and Swamp Loop. New signage to be installed along Perimeter Trail and pruning around entry signs. Discussion on use of clean wood chips for parking area and/or trails where ponding occurs.

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

Meeting Adjourned at 8:25 P.M.

Ken Dickinson, Vice Chair