



# TOWN OF HUDSON

## Conservation Commission



William Collins, Chairman      Dave Morin, Selectmen Liaison

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

**DATE: January 10, 2022**

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

William Collins Chairman <u>  X  </u>	Ken Dickinson Vice-Chair <u>  X  </u>	Bill Kallgren Member <u>  X  </u>	Brian Pinsonneault Alternate <u>  X  </u>
Sandra Rumbaugh Member <u>  X  </u>	David Morin Selectman Rep <u>  X  </u>	Elvis Dhima Town Rep <u>  X  </u>	

- I. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRPERSON AT 07:03 P.M.
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- III. ROLL CALL
- IV. SEATING OF ALTERNATES

Mr. Pinsonneault was seated tonight for the currently open member seat.

V. Public Input Related to Non-Agenda Items: None

## **VI. Old Business**

### **A. and B. Hunting at Musquash Pond / NHF&G Land Owner Relation Program**

Selectman Morin reported that he had spoken with HPD's Chief Avery about the recent incident at Musquash Pond and that the Chief stated that there were only a few calls for service in regards to hunting at Musquash Pond over an extended period of time. Selectman Morin also stated that Chief Avery suggested residents call the department when problems arose rather than NH Fish and Game as the police response time would take significantly less time.

Mr. Collins reported that he talked to Lt. Mancini of the NHF&G law enforcement division about hunting violations at Musquash Pond and also provided the commission members with a call log that showed the various calls for service NHF&G received related to tonight's discussion. Mr. Collins pointed out that the call log dated back to 1999 and that this did not seem to be an ongoing problem.

Mr. Kallgren pointed out that in the meeting packet there was an example of signage which pertained to hunting and that posting these signs on conservation properties might address the concerns of residents within the community.

Mrs. Rumbaugh suggested that signs be posted at all entry points onto conservation property. She went on to add that a change in use for the property might be warranted as further development takes place around the pond. Mr. Rumbaugh asked if any proposed changes in permitted uses would need authorization at the state level. Mr. Collins answered that he did not know how the process worked and that the matter would need more research.

Town Engineer Dhima added that the commission did suggest that the residents reach out to their local state representatives on the matter.

Selectmen Morin pointed out that there was an attempt to change the rules on the pond at one time with no success.

Mr. Dickinson said that he does appreciate the concerns of the citizens then added that he allows hunting on property he owns in Maine.

Mr. Pinsonnault said that he does hunt the Musquash area and stated that New Hampshire enjoys a long tradition of hunting and outdoor activities. He went on to add that there seemed to be only a few complaints and that once the uses change it's very hard to get them reinstated.

Mr. Collins agreed with Mr. Pinsonnault that the current situation did not warrant drastic measures be taken at this time. He went on to add that there is a program through the NHF&G called the "Land Owner Relationship Program", that might be beneficial to this topic

by helping land owners and hunters coexist. Mr. Rumbaugh asked if this program would only address Musquash or would it be for all properties. Mr. Collins replied that it be instituted at all conservation properties and added that he'd be happy to bring the matter to the Board of Selectmen if needed to get their approval. Selectmen Morin suggested moving forward with the program as it was a step in the right direction and that Chairman Collins could forward a letter to the Town Administrator which would state the intent of the commission in regards to the program.

Mr. Kallgren commented that it would have been nice to get feedback from residents on the discussion tonight.

## **VII. New Business**

None

## **VIII. Other Business**

- A. Mrs. Rumbaugh asked that the idea of a contest to have residents submit Logo Designs for the Hudson Conservation Commission be deferred until the March meeting.
- B. The trail work day set for January 15, 2022 was discussed. Mr. Collins said that he could not attend due to a personal conflict and asked if Mr. Kallgren and Mr. Dickinson would be willing to coordinate this effort. Both Mr. Kallgren and Mr. Dickinson replied that they were willing to do so.

### **C. Election of Officers**

**Chairman:** Mr. Collins was nominated for the position of Chairman by Mr. Dickinson. Mrs. Rumbaugh seconded the nomination. With no other nominations made the commission members voted 4/0/0 to elect Mr. Collins as Chairman for 2022.

**Vice-Chairman:** Mr. Dickinson was nominated for the position of Vice Chairman by Mr. Collins. Mr. Kallgren seconded the nomination. With no other nominations made the commission members voted 4/0/0 to elect Mr. Dickinson as Vice Chairman for 2022.

**Clerk:** Mr. Kallgren was nominated for the position of Clerk by Mr. Collins. Mrs. Rumbaugh seconded the nomination. With no other nominations made the commission members voted 4/0/0 to elect Mr. Kallgren as Clerk for 2022.

## **IX. Financial Status**

Mr. Collins reviewed the current Financial Status, no outstanding issue were noted. With the exception being a negative balance of 185.00 for account number 06-4619-5586-340-000. The chairman said he would inquire about this line item as it was not on prior reports.

## **X. Correspondence**

Information pertaining to the 2022 Aquatic Invasive Specie Grant Program. Mr. Collins stated that NHDES grant match would be 50% this year and that he would go before the Board of Selectmen on January 25<sup>th</sup> to seek their acceptance. Mr. Dickinson asked if state Limnologist Amy Smagula had forward any reports in regards to weed control at Robinson and Otarnic Pond for last year. Mr. Collins stated he would inquire with Ms. Smagula on the matter and added that he would try to arrange to have Ms. Smagula attend a future meeting so that commission members can ask question in regards to the invasive species control program.

## **XI. Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Kallgren moved to accept the HCC regular meeting minutes for December 13, 2021. Motion seconded by Mrs. Rumbaugh, motion carried 4/0/1. Mr. Pinsonneault abstained

Mr. Collins deferred approval of the December 13, 2021 Non Public meeting minutes until February.

## **XII. Commissioner's Comments**

Mr. Dickinson reported that he had been out to Rangers Town Forest and noticed additional areas of the property that could would need cleaning up at some point. He went on to welcome newly appointed commission member Brian Pinsonneault to the group and closed by stating that he looked forward to the trail work day on Saturday.

Mr. Kallgren stated that residents hiking the trails should dress for the weather and use the appropriate foot wear to prevent slipping on icy trails.

Mr. Dhima stated that the RFQ process for the Robinson Pond Watershed was still in process and that to date the town had received a great deal of information from applicants for the study. Mr. Kallgren added that qualifications from 4 candidates had been reviewed.

Mr. Pinsonneault mentioned that the weather for the trail work day would be extremely cold and stated volunteers should bundle up. He added that he looked forward to attending.

Mr. Collins thanked Mr. Kallgren and Mr. Dhima for their efforts on the Robinson Pond Watershed RFQ process. Mr. Collins added that there is a meeting to be held at the end of January by the LMRLAC to address public input and comments in regards to the lower Merrimack River. Lastly Mr. Collins let the other commission members know that Mr. Brownrigg decided not to seek reappointment to the HCC and publicly thanked him for his service to the town.

**Mr. Kallgren moved to enter into Non-Public Session at 8:32 p.m. pursuant to NH RSA 91-**

**A:3, II(d) which states “Consideration of the acquisition, sale or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are averse to those of the general community”. Motion seconded by Mrs. Rumbaugh**

**Roll Call vote to enter Non-Public Session:**

William Collins    Bill Kallgren    Sandra Rumbaugh    Ken Dickinson    Brian Pinsonneault  
Chairman Yes    Member Yes    Member Yes    Vice Chair Yes    Alternate Yes

The non-public session was entered into at 8:06 p.m.

The regular public meeting continued after exiting from non-public at 8:44 p.m.

Mrs. Rumbaugh moved to seal the minutes of the January 10, 2022 Non-Public Session. Mr. Dickinson seconded the motion. Motion carries 5/0/0

**Motion to adjourn:**

Mrs. Rumbaugh moved to adjourn tonight’s meeting at 8:46 p.m. Motion seconded by Mr. Kallgren. Motion Carried 5/0/0

*William Collins*

William Collins, HCC Chairman