



# 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

### CONSERVATION COMMISSION AGENDA

The Conservation Commission will hold its next regular meeting on **Monday, October 19, 2020** at 7:00 p.m. in the **Community Center**, located at 12 Lions Ave., Hudson, NH.

- ✓ Call to Order
- ✓ Pledge of Allegiance
- ✓ Roll Call
- ✓ Alternates
- ✓ Public Input Related to Non-Agenda Items

#### I. Old Business:

- A. Musquash Parking Area Update
- B. Commission Members Warrant Article
- C. Trail Map Update

#### II. New Business:

- A. Merrill Park Restart
- B. Kiosk Installation

#### III. Other Business

#### IV. Financial Status:

#### V. Correspondence:

#### VI. Approval of Minutes:

- A. September 14, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes
- B. September 15, 2020 Non-Public Meeting Minutes

#### VII. Commissioner's Comments:

*Next Regular Meeting will be held on November 9, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.*

  
Randy Brownrigg, Chairman



MUSQUASH  
CONSERVATION  
AREA  
PARKING  
IMPROVEMENTS  
"CONCEPTUAL  
SITE PLAN"  
EXHIBIT #1

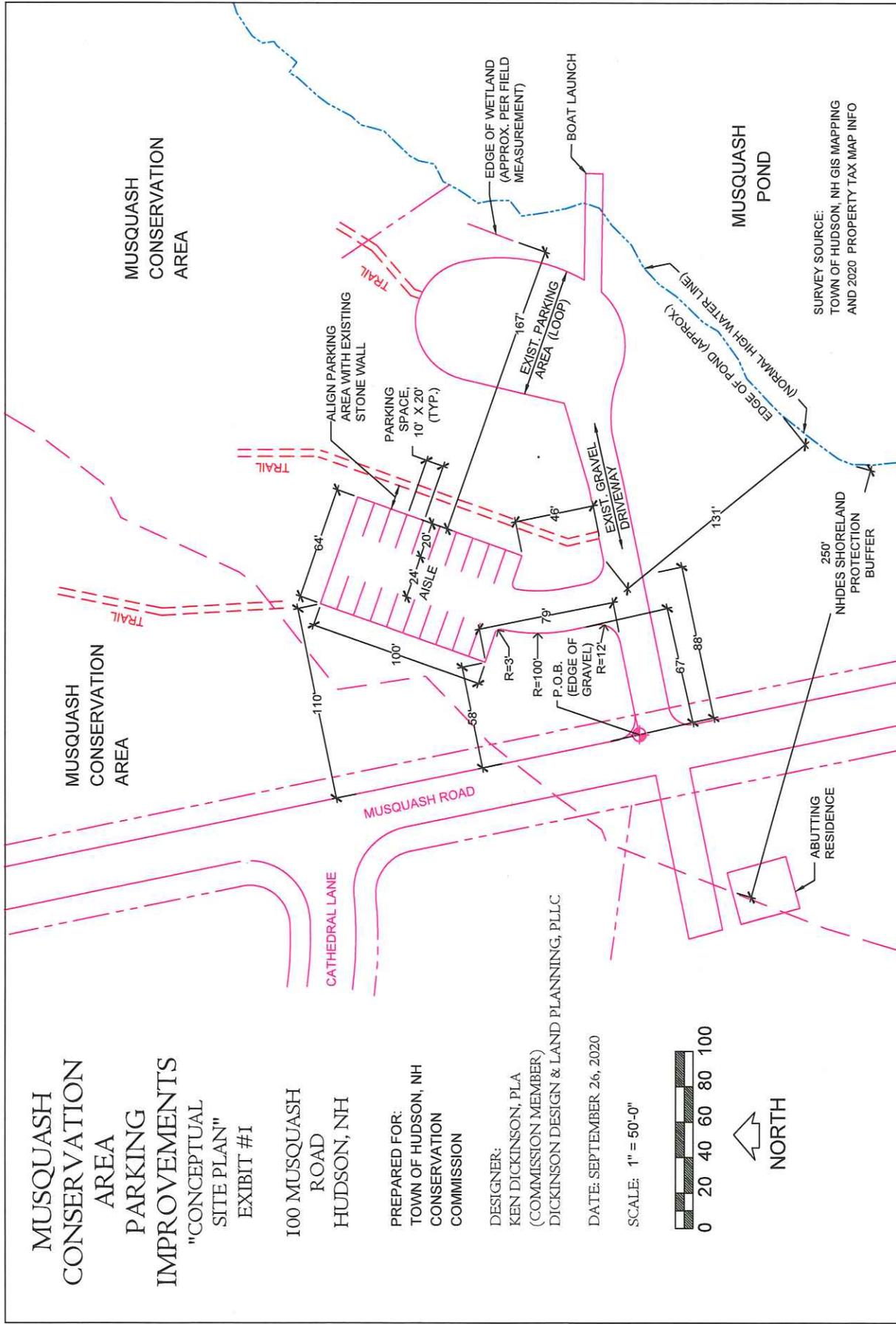
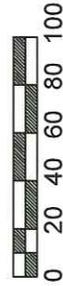
100 MUSQUASH  
ROAD  
HUDSON, NH

PREPARED FOR:  
TOWN OF HUDSON, NH  
CONSERVATION  
COMMISSION

DESIGNER:  
KEN DICKINSON, PLA  
(COMMISSION MEMBER)  
DICKINSON DESIGN & LAND PLANNING, PLLC

DATE: SEPTEMBER 26, 2020

SCALE: 1" = 50'-0"



SURVEY SOURCE:  
TOWN OF HUDSON, NH GIS MAPPING  
AND 2020 PROPERTY TAX MAP INFO

**MUSQUASH  
CONSERVATION  
AREA  
PARKING  
IMPROVEMENTS**

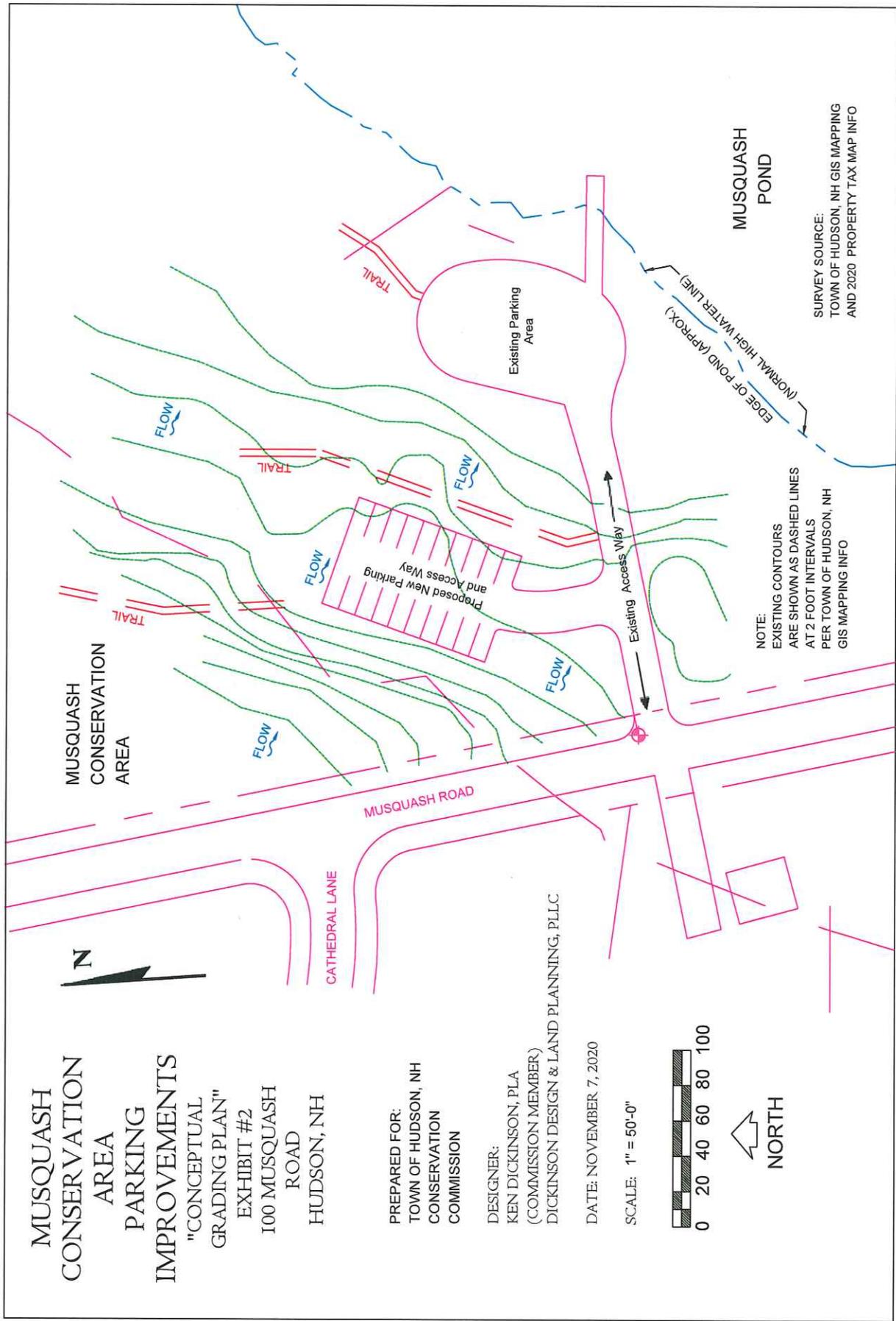
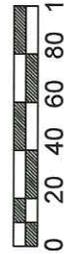
"CONCEPTUAL  
GRADING PLAN"  
EXHIBIT #2  
100 MUSQUASH  
ROAD  
HUDSON, NH

PREPARED FOR:  
TOWN OF HUDSON, NH  
CONSERVATION  
COMMISSION

DESIGNER:  
KEN DICKINSON, PLA  
(COMMISSION MEMBER)  
DICKINSON DESIGN & LAND PLANNING, PLLC

DATE: NOVEMBER 7, 2020

SCALE: 1" = 50'-0"



NOTE:  
EXISTING CONTOURS  
ARE SHOWN AS DASHED LINES  
AT 2 FOOT INTERVALS  
PER TOWN OF HUDSON, NH  
GIS MAPPING INFO

SURVEY SOURCE:  
TOWN OF HUDSON, NH GIS MAPPING  
AND 2020 PROPERTY TAX MAP INFO

**Hudson NH Conservation Commission Warrant Article Proposal**  
*Increasing Membership from 5 members to 7 members*

**History:**

The Hudson Conservation Commission was created by town warrant in 1972 (reference below)

**TOWN WARRANT  
THE TOWN OF HUDSON  
THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

To the inhabitants of the Town of Hudson in the County of Hillsborough in said State, qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Hudson Memorial School Auditorium, in said Hudson, on Tuesday, March 7, 1972 next, to elect Town Officers for the ensuing year and to take sense of the qualified voters whether the amendments of the Constitution proposed by the 1971 session of the General Court shall be approved by ballot and vote, by ballot, on the following referendum questions:

Budget Committee)

- ▶ 6. To see if the Town will vote to establish a conservation commission under the provisions of RSA 36A, and that the Selectmen shall appoint said commission, to consist of five members, within 60 days of the said Annual Meeting, and that said Selectmen shall also designate, for the purpose of calling the first commission meeting, a temporary chairman and raise and appropriate a sum of \$150.00 for dues to be paid to the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions. (By Selectmen) (Approved by majority of Budget Committee)

In 1978 the Hudson Conservation commission requested two (2) additional member seats be appointed by the Hudson Select Board. This request was seemingly granted as confirmed in the annual report snippet below.

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

During 1978, the Conservation Commission requested that the Selectmen appoint two additional members. Their approval brought our number to seven, as allowed under state law.

The Hudson Conservation Commission has been operating on a seven (7) member and two (2) alternate member board for over forty (40) years. During 2019, the Hudson Select board retrieved these documents from 1972 and 1978 claiming the commission expanded illegally in 1978. The commission instead, needed to put the request to increase membership on the warrant in 1978 and not request it through the select board. Due to these findings, the 2019 select board decreased the active member seats of the Hudson conservation commission from seven (7) to five (5) with two (2) alternate positions.

Sept 2020

### **Current Request:**

Seeing as though the commission has worked without major issue and with fair efficiency over the past forty (40) years, it only seems reasonable to properly and legally request that the commission move back to a seven (7) member board.

Also note that at least one (1), if not two (2), members of the conservation commission sit upon the planning board thus adding to their personal responsibilities. This limits their time and availability for other tasks associated with the conservation commission.

By having a seven (7) member board, it allows more input, more expertise, more support and more “man power” when tackling both legal concerns around wetland exception applications and physical responsibilities such as trail work and land maintenance.

### **Proposed Team Breakdown**

1. Chairman: responsible for organizing meetings and its agenda. The face of the commission to other boards and political groups. Interactive with town officials to accomplish the groups goals
2. Vice chairman: Supporting the chairman in his duties. Helping to double check all communication to and from the commission. Helping to organize outside contacts, trainings and support as needed
3. Secretary: Taking notes during meetings, keeping records of ongoing agenda items and helping the commission to stay focused and task oriented
4. Public Relations: Helping to support public outreach and marketing campaigns when it comes to trail work days, new warrant articles and highlighting conservation “wins” in the area. Showing all parties the benefits of the Hudson Conservation Commission
5. Forestry and Trail Commander: This individual will help maintain our current forestry plans, schedule new harvests, and review all expenses and profits with these actions. Also, responsible for recommending how to use these funds for land up-keep
6. Lakes and Watershed expert: Being the main contact for all lake maintenance programs. Helping to keep track of all work and expenses associated with keeping our town lakes clean and cost effective. Also taking training and giving training on the latest watershed regulations and grant resources as applicable.
7. Open Space and Conservation Lead: Maintaining a list of current conservation properties. Recommending new properties to purchase and being responsible for the process in which purchases are conducted. Conducting the research to provide to the commission in order to make the best decisions moving forward.

Plus two alternates: taking the seat of any member who can make a regularly schedule meeting or trail work day.

Prepared by  
Brett Gagnon

For Discussion by the  
Hudson Conservation Commission

Sept 2020

### **Concerns:**

Will the commission have problems when trying to hold meetings due to the lack of a quorum?

Note: a quorum is loosely defined as a majority of the group.

By increasing membership from 5 members to 7 members, the minimal number of members required to hold a quorum increases from 3 individuals to 4 individuals. Seeing as though the Commission has the ability for 2 alternate members/positions, there are essentially 9 volunteers that could create a 4 person quorum in order to hold a meeting.

Please note: Senior volunteers have stated that the lack of a quorum has yet to happen more than once in the past 10+ years.

### **Supporting Evidence:**

*2019 NH Association of Conservation Commission Guidebook*

*"Effective Commissions are Powered by Enthusiastic People! What a conservation commission accomplishes is directly related to the ideas and efforts of its members."*

1. The commission has been working with a seven-member board for nearly 30 years. Declaring that a seven-board commission was inaccurate for that period of time may cause conflict with any wetland exception votes that were borderline decisions. Applicants could go back and ask for an appeal.
2. Increasing volunteering effort on the commission is a benefit to the community since they are public servants.
3. Currently we have made great progress in the past year or two.
  - a. Purchased new land and acquired another
  - b. Updated conservation maps
  - c. Completed one logging operation
  - d. Conducted hikes with residents all over town
  - e. Started an outreach campaign on Facebook and the town website
  - f. Increased current use funding

### **Proposed Language:**

*Shall the Town vote to increase the current membership of the Conservation Commission from 5 members to 7 members as permitted by RSA 36-A:3*

Prepared by  
Brett Gagnon

For Discussion by the  
Hudson Conservation Commission

Sept 2020

**Project Gates:**

Gate 1: Discuss amongst Hudson Conservation Commission

- *Active discussion with fact-based reasoning for approval or denial*
- *Take vote to move forward*

Gate 2: Present to Select Board

- *Present a shortened version of this document to Select Board*
- *Request permission to move forward*

Gate 3: Marketing Campaign

- *Provide details to the public (as seen in this document)*
- *Utilize social media / Town Webpage / Town e-news letter*
- *Prepare short Hudson Cable Television broadcast*
- *Short presentation for Town Meeting*
- *Create fliers for distribution to public (utilize for various public gatherings and events)*

Expenditure Report - Including Carry Forward Activity  
 Conservation Committee  
 Town of Hudson, NH  
 As Of: September 2020, GL Year 2021

Run: 10/03/20  
 12:04PM

Page: 1  
 llabrie  
 Report Sorted  
 Expenditure  
 Conservation

Account Number	Budget	Prior Year Encumbered	Budget & PY Adjustments	Net Budget	MTD Exp	YTD Exp	Encumbered	Balance Available	%Used	
<b>Conservation Fund</b>										
06-4619-5586-202-000	2,300.00	0.00	0.00	2,300.00	0.00	196.25	0.00	2,103.75	8.533	
	Conserv Comm, Sm. Equipment Mtce									
	0.00									
06-4619-5586-217-000	1,327.00	0.00	0.00	1,327.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,327.00	0.000	
	Conserv Comm, Assoc Dues/Fees									
	0.00									
06-4619-5586-235-000	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.000	
	Conserv Comm, Registration Fees									
	0.00									
06-4619-5586-252-000	48,626.00	40,204.00	-10,069.00	78,761.00	4,150.00	21,127.38	15,874.00	41,759.62	46.979	
	Conserv Comm, Prof Services									
	0.00									
<b>Total Conservation Fund</b>										
Selected Year	52,753.00	0.00	0.00	52,753.00	2,200.00	7,062.63	0.00	45,690.37	13.388	
Prior Year	0.00	40,204.00	-10,069.00	30,135.00	1,950.00	14,261.00	15,874.00	0.00	100.000	
Sort Total	52,753.00	40,204.00	-10,069.00	82,888.00	4,150.00	21,323.63	15,874.00	45,690.37	44.877	



[Click here to Register](#)

## Grant Writing for Conservation

Wednesday, October 28 at 12 noon

with Stephen Meno, LEED Green Associate

UNH Community and Economic Development Field Specialist

In a ever-changing funding landscape, grant writing is becoming an even more important tool for conservation commissions. This session will provide an introduction to the fundamentals of grant writing including a preview of the upcoming UNH Cooperative Extension workshop, *Gearing Up for Grant Writing*. Our speaker, Stephen Meno, AICP, is a Community & Economic Development Field Specialist who will go over five elements that make up a successful grant proposal. Topics will include where to look for funding, how to get started, and how to craft a cohesive narrative.

[Click here to Register](#)

Thanks Mr. MiForestry Action Plan 2020.

William G. McDowell  
11 Heritage Circle  
Hudson, NH 03051  
9/19/2020

VIA EMAIL

Town of Hudson Conservation Commission  
c/o Elvis Dhima, Town Engineer  
12 School St.  
Hudson, NH, 03051  
edhima@hudsonnh.gov

RE: Hudson Logistics Center Subdivision, Site Plan & Conditional Use Permit SB# 11-20, SP# 04-20, CU# 02-20 Lowell & Steele Road- Map 234/Lots 5, 34 & 35, Map 239/Lot 1 Letter of Opposition

Dear Chairman Brownrigg and Members of the Hudson Conservation Commission,

My name is Bill McDowell, and I live at 11 Heritage Circle in Hudson with my wife. We've lived in Hudson for a bit over 3 years now, and one of the things that brought us here, rather than somewhere a bit closer to work, was the fact that Hudson was not completely built up and there were forests and greenspaces.

I am a biology professor at a local college, and my research focuses on aquatic ecology and human impacts on aquatic ecosystems. Needless to say, I spend a lot of time studying streams and rivers, and I am concerned about how this project will impact both the Merrimack River and Limit Brook. I feel this project should not be approved because of these concerns.

One consistent pattern we see when studying a river is that the more land area in a watershed that is covered in pavement or a building, the worse the water quality is. The studies documenting this over many decades is clear and compelling.

While the existing golf course isn't a nature preserve, it is a far cry from 3 million square feet of buildings plus an enormous amount of parking lot area. You get a big rainstorm, and that is just a tremendous amount of water rapidly being dumped into the river, and carrying with it all of the oil, and gasoline, and tiny rubber and plastic particles, and fluids from the big trucks.

We've made so much progress with the Merrimack River over the last 50 years, and I'm afraid this development would move us in the wrong direction. I'm also very concerned about what this project would mean for Limit Brook. Of course, Limit Brook is a much smaller system than the Merrimack. But, it's the health of many small streams like Limit Brook that keeps the entire Merrimack Watershed clean.

As Hillwood's report notes, Limit Brook is a perennial stream, meaning it flows year round. Right now, a lot of the rain that falls on the golf course ends up feeding into the brook and the associated wetlands around them. However, this project would take more than 10% of that area,

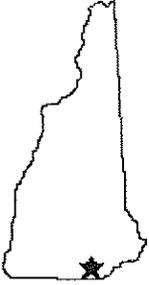
and therefore more than 10% of the rainwater that would go into the brook will instead be storm water dumped into the Merrimack. Limit Brook nearly stopped flowing this summer – if we took 10% of the rainfall away I'm afraid it would have, and that would have big impacts on the downstream wetlands and all the wildlife that live in and around the stream.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my concerns about how this project will impact the Merrimack and Limit Brook. While these are not the only environmental impacts that this project would have, as aquatic ecology is my area of expertise, I felt compelled

Thank you for your consideration of my concerns and your service to the town.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill McDowell". The signature is written in a cursive style with some loops and flourishes.

William (Bill) McDowell



# 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: September 14, 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 <u>  E  </u>	William Collins Vice-Chair <u>  X  </u>	Brett Gagnon Member <u>  X  </u>	Ken Dickinson Member <u>  E  </u>
Elliott Veloso Member <u>  X  </u>	Paula Hubert Alternate <u>  X  </u>	Jennifer Parkhurst Alternate <u>  X  </u> (Remote)	
David Morin Select. Rep. <u>  X  </u>	Elvis Dhima Town Staff <u>  X  </u>		

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- I. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRPERSON AT 07:13 P.M.**
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- III. ROLL CALL**
- IV. SEATING OF ALTERNATES**

Mrs. Hubert seated for Mr. Dickinson

Mrs. Parkhurst seated for Mr. Brownrigg

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

**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. Rangers Town Forest Clean Up**

Participating members of the commission reported that the Rangers Town Forest cleanup was a huge success. They thanked Deb Putman of the Sustainably Committee and all the volunteers who joined in for this massive effort.

**C. Schedule Work Day-** This item was mistakenly place on the agenda. No discussions or decisions were made in regards to a work day at the Colburn property. Mr. Dickinson stated at the last meeting it was decided to have a work day at the Kimball Hill Town Forest on October 10, 2020 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

**D. Robison Pond and Ottarnic Pond Treatment Results**

Mr. Collins stated he had no information to offer on this matter and said that this topic could be revisited at a later date.

**VII. New Business**

**A. Warrant Article to increase the HCC from 5 to 7 members**

Short discussion took place to once again seek an increase in commission members from the voters of the community.

Mr. Gagnon stated that he would be willing to draft the warrant article and to provide information for voters regarding this issue. He said that he would have draft copies for review during the October meeting.

**VIII. Other Business**

None

**IX. Financial Status**

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

**X. Correspondence**

None

**XI. Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Veloso moved to except the revised July 13, 2020 regular meeting minutes and the July 13, 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	Jennifer Parkhurst	Paula Hubert
Vice-Chair yes	Member yes	Member yes	Seated Member Yes	Seated Member Yes

Mr. Gagnon moved to except the August 10, 2020 regular meeting minutes and the August 10, 2020 non-public meeting minutes. Mrs. Hubert seconded the motion, motion carried 5/0/0  
Rollcall 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

**XII. Commissioner's Comments**

Mr. Collins mentioned that the Sustainability Committee would be hosting a road side cleanup of Wason Road October3, 2020. Adults interested in attending can meet at the old Burns Hill Fire Station.

Mr. Gagnon mentioned that the BOS would be discussing a letter received from the governor's office concerning the long talked about Hudson Boulevard. He encouraged the viewing audience to tune into the BOS meeting on September 15<sup>th</sup> and to contact the board members if there were any questions or concerns.

**Motion to adjourn:**

Mr. Veloso moved to adjourn tonight's meeting at 7:48 p.m. Motion seconded by Mr. Gagnon,  
Motion Carried 5/0/0

William Collins, HCC Vice-Chairman

RF