

CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
OCTOBER 11, 2017

PRESENT: Bob Boynton, Chairman, David McTigue, Karen Miller, Lisa Oden, Jack Messe, Matt Oliveira, Kleta Dudley (SoRLAC Representative) Lori Rautiola  
PUBLIC: Michael Bara

The meeting was called to order at the Town Office at 7:30 p.m.

The minutes of the September 13, 2017 meeting were reviewed. Bob made a motion to approve the minutes. Lisa seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**New Business:** Annual Elections were held. David nominated Karen Miller as a member for a three year term. All were in favor. David nominated Michael Bara as an alternate member. All were in favor. Bob nominated Lori Rautiola as Secretary. All were in favor. Jack nominated Bob Boynton as Chairman and David McTigue as Vice-Chairman. All were in favor.

A copy of the Declaration of Charitable Trust and Conveyance of Executory Interest for the Binney Hill Preserve was distributed. NWT is looking for the Town to sign off on this document in exchange for \$25,000 donation. Bob noted in the third paragraph down it states "NWT intends to allow, at NWT's sole discretion, walking, hiking, nature observation..." He stated this is concerning and would like to change it to read "intends to allow perpetual public access to the property for the following activities..." Bob added the Town could become responsible for legal obligations on the property if NWT decides to sell the land. He stated restrictions put in the document are restrictions the Town would inherit if the Commission had to take over responsibility of the easement. Members agreed having public access is a good point to include in the document. Bob noted NWT may try to petition the Town to close that part of Binney Hill Road, but disagrees as it would take away public access.

**Mr. Ed Rogers and Middle School Robotics Team:** Mr. Rogers is one of the coaches of the middle school Robotics Team which competes globally. The Club was founded here in New Hampshire by Dean Kamen and one his passions has been water purification. Mr. Rogers stated Kamen has taken up the challenge to deliver purified water to parts of countries where pure water is scarce and one of the Robotics Team's themes is hydrodynamics. The students are working on a project that pertains to the human water cycle and hydrodynamics and have started their research with dams in New Hampshire. The students found that only 4% of dams in New Hampshire generate any power. The Team would like to know if the Commission has done any recent studies or conservation efforts with dams in the past. Bob recommended contacting the Dam Bureau at the State; the Commissions only involvement with dams has been monitoring dams #14, 35, 15. Mr. Rogers noted he is aware of the GIS maps available and asked if there was any certain map which demonstrated base flow. Bob mentioned that is a great idea to know how much power can be generated and he will send Mr. Rogers the name of the person to speak with regarding base flow. Jack recommended visiting the dams in Peterborough at Noone Falls and Macdowell Dam. Matt commented great job and great project.

Bob displayed a Facebook page that was made for the Commission in hopes to get correct information about Town Conservation lands to the Townspeople. Members agreed this was a step forward in enlightening the Townspeople about the Conservation Commission.

There was continued discussion on the Northeast Wilderness Trust and a letter they wrote regarding resident's questions and concerns about the Binney Hill preserve. Members talked about the activities that are allowed/not allowed on the property. Bob asked members if the Commission should go ahead with the \$25,000 donation to NWT.

**Water Resources:** Bob gave an update on the Page Hill Dump Site water tests and mentioned ChemServe will have the results soon.

It was mentioned every year the Commission makes a donation to the Souhegan Water Shed Association. Bob made a motion to donate \$100 to the Souhegan Water Shed Association. All were in favor.

The 2018 budget was discussed. Members agreed to raise the supplies line to \$125 from \$100.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Rautiola