



OLD VALUES - NEW HORIZONS

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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Conservation Commission

Draft Minutes

September 24, 2020

7:30 pm @ Community Development Department

Attendance:

Chairman Dave Curto- present (at Community Development)

Vice Chair Wayne Morris- present (via Zoom)

James Finn- excused

Pam Skinner- excused

Lisa Ferrisi- present (via Zoom)

Kara Feldberg, alternate- present (via Zoom), seated for Mr. Finn

Brian McFarland, alternate-present (via Zoom), seated for Ms. Skinner

Oliver Liu, alternate- excused

Jason Luippold, alternate- excused

Miscellaneous Items:

- Jr Trail adopters/ YESS presentation

Chairman Curto stated that he spoke before the class at the YESS program and gave awards to the students there for their efforts to clean up the trails in the area near the school building.

- N. Lowell rd. Pond update

According to Chairman Curto, the dam in the area has been drained and the pond has been empty. The water never came back and it has been an issue in the area. A wildlife biologist from NH Fish and Game came out to look at the pond. The turtles that were in that pond have no place to nest for the winter.

Chairman Curto stated that they have a plan to go before the Board of Selectmen on Monday night and he would like to see a stop work order put on the work being done in the area.

Ms. Wendy Williams addressed the Board and stated that she went out to the pond with a wildlife biologist and he was able to find turtle tracks in the area. The turtles cannot find water in the area and they are wandering off to try to find water and they are not surviving. Ms. Williams reviewed the history of historic culvert in the area; it is very old and it may be eligible to be protected. The beaver dam in the area has been breached. Further, there is a chance that New Hampshire DOT was in the wrong location on this Class VI road and they were dismantling the wrong culvert. Ms. Williams stated that a DES permit should have been pulled. There is no water in the area at all right now and no

42 one expected to find the historic culvert in the area. Ms. Williams is concerned because
43 she does not think anyone should be touching this historic culvert until it is assessed. Ms.
44 Williams stated that the beaver is gone and it has not returned. Ms. Williams stated it may
45 be a few years before the turtle population can be repaired. Chairman Curto stated that
46 they are going before the Board of Selectmen to discuss the issue with this wetland and
47 he is very concerned that this is happening.

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49

- Dredge & Fill Wall permit: 27 Farmer Road – Benchmark

50 Mr. Joseph Maynard from Benchmark Engineering addressed the Board. Mr. Maynard
51 stated that the applicant has a wall on a beach on Cobbetts Pond. The wall is starting to
52 deteriorate and fall in. The permits, when sent to DOT, are often expedited if they have
53 the signature of a Conservation Commission. Mr. Maynard stated that the low wall has
54 taken a pretty good hit but the upper wall has also received some damage. Mr. Maynard
55 stated that the permit would cover all of this work. The applicant would like to use the
56 same type of stone. Mr. Maynard stated that the applicant can rebuild the exact same wall
57 but it cannot be modified in any way. Mr. Maynard stated that the wall was first built in
58 the 1890's. The wakeboarding on the pond is having an effect on the pond according to
59 those who live on the pond.

60

61 The Board has no issues with the proposal at this time.

62

63 **DES Permits & Correspondence:**

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- 8 North Policy Street

65 **A motion was made by Mr. Morris to allow the Chairman to sign off on the permit**
66 **for 8 North Policy Road. Seconded by Ms. Ferrisi. Roll call vote: Chairman Curto,**
67 **Mr. Morris, Ms. Ferrisi, Mr. McFarland and Ms. Feldberg- yes. Vote 5-0. Motion**
68 **passes.**

69

70 **Campbell Farm Discussion:**

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- Tom P. Next meeting updates/site walk/ invite Campbell subcommittee

73 Chairman Curto would like to do a presentation at the farm so the updates on the farm
74 can be shown.

75

76 Mr. Morris sated that Mr. Chris Akins can go out and get the mowing done at Campbell
77 Farm if the Board is willing to allow the second mowing for the year. Mr. Morris stated it
78 would be \$2,000.

79

80 **A motion was made by Mr. Morris to allow Fieldworks to do the second mowing at**
81 **Campbell Farm. Seconded by Ms. Feldberg. Roll call vote: Chairman Curto, Mr.**

82 **Morris, Ms. Ferrisi, Mr. McFarland and Ms. Feldberg- yes. Vote 5-0. Motion**
83 **passes.**

84

85 Mr. Akins is interested if there has been any progress in the discussion of the trails in the
86 area as well.

87

88 The Board discussed that yoga at the farm is another good reason to have the farm
89 mowed.

90

91

- Roadside clearing

92 This has been taken care of and when you go by, you have a full view of the pond.

93

94 **Clyde Pond Updates:**

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- Gate complete

97 Complete and has a lock on it. There is a combination for the lock as well. Mr. Logan
98 stated that there is land across from the lower gate that was offered to use as a storage
99 place for the parking lot material that will be moved to that area. They need to make sure
100 this is an approved spot that can be used to keep the materials.

101

102

- Derek Munson presenting Bike trail updates

103 Mr. Derek Munson addressed the Board. Mr. Munson showed the Board photos of a
104 “teeter” that had been created to be potentially used on the trails. Mr. Munson stated they
105 were considering putting one of these at the top of the double wide trail or there is a place
106 on the other side of the stream; there is a flat spot in that area as well. Mr. Munson stated
107 he is a little concerned about vandalism up near the snowboard park area. Mr. Munson
108 stated that it is a movable feature that can be moved if it is not working in a spot. Bikers
109 can ride up it and walkers/runners can use it too. Mr. Morris asked if this has been
110 discussed previously; Mr. Munson stated that it had been discussed and the Board was
111 open to the idea of considering it so he took the time to buy the materials and put it
112 together. Ms. Feldberg asked if they were liable if someone got hurt as she was worried
113 someone might get hurt on the structure. Mr. Munson stated that they can install the
114 structure on a temporary basis and try it out in certain areas to see if it will work.

115

116 Mr. Munson then showed the Board signs that a mountain bike organization (NEMBA)
117 was willing to contribute their labor to. The materials would need to be paid for but the
118 labor would be free of charge. Mr. Munson stated that he could get an estimate for the
119 signs and see if the sign maker might be interested in making these for Campbell Farm as
120 well. Mr. Munson does not know if the sign maker does this as a hobby or if it a service
121 he is interested in extending.

122

123 Chairman Curto stated that he is interested in considering reflective trail markers that
124 might be able to be utilized.

125

126 Ms. Wendy Williams addressed the Board. Ms. Williams stated that the Historic
127 Commission voted to make the sheep pen trail an official trail and they would like to
128 think of a fitting name for the trail.

129

130 Mr. Munson stated that he would like to get some pricing on the signage and bring that
131 information to the Trails Committee next week. Mr. Munson stated that it is hunting
132 season and he stated it might be a good idea to post a sign on the kiosk to let people know
133 that it is hunting season and that people should be wearing orange in the woods.

134

135 Chairman Curto stated that he would like to see a list of signs put together that they need
136 to have made for safety measures in particular. Voss signs is a vendor they have used in
137 the past for signage according to Chairman Curto.

138

139 Ms. Williams and the Board discussed naming the yellow trail and making sure the Sheep
140 Pen Trail was the name of one of the trails and that the Gage or Gage Land Trail be the
141 name of another trail. Mr. Munson will get numbers for the single-track trails and present
142 this information in front of the Trails Committee.

143

- 144 • Campers/campfire issue

145 Chairman Curto stated that there were people camping down by the pond for several
146 nights. There was trash in the area as well. There was some trash but Chairman Curto
147 stated that it was in better shape than he thought it might be after people camping there
148 for several evenings.

149

150 Mr. Morris stated that the Board needs to adopt by laws for the area. Chairman Curto
151 stated that he would like to do this during a by-laws workshop; he has until December to
152 get this into the town administrator.

153

154 Chairman Curto would like the Board to take a look at the fines for littering and other
155 infractions. Clyde Pond will require slightly different by laws because there are so many
156 things in that area that can be risky.

157

158 **Deer Leap/ Moeckel Pond Updates:**

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- 160 • Dam complete/ backfill/ADA walkway

161 The dam is complete and the ADA walkway is complete according to Chairman Curto.

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- Invoice for Parking lot and walkway materials

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The material for the walkway was donated and it was delivered to the site according to Chairman Curto. It is from Windham Outdoor Sales.

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Meeting Minutes Review and Approve – 8/13/20 & 8/27/20

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A motion was made by Ms. Feldberg to approve the August 13th draft minutes as presented. Seconded by Ms. Ferrisi. Roll call vote: Ms. Ferrisi, Ms. Feldberg, Chairman Curto- yes. Mr. McFarland and Mr. Morris abstained. Vote 3-0-2.

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Motion passes.

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A motion made by Mr. McFarland to approve the August 27th draft minutes as presented. Seconded by Ms. Feldberg. Roll call vote: Chairman Curto, Ms. Feldberg, Ms. McFarland, Ms. Ferrisi- yes. Mr. Morris abstained. Vote 4-0-1.

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Motion passes.

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A motion was made by Mr. Morris to adjourn at 9:11pm. Seconded by Mr. McFarland. Roll call vote: Chairman Curto, Mr. Morris, Ms. Ferrisi, Mr. McFarland and Ms. Feldberg- yes. Vote 5-0. Motion passes.

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Respectfully submitted by Anitra Lincicum