Conservation Commission Minutes

Chairperson Sam Demeritt opened the meeting at 7:03 PM. Other members in attendance were Raelene Shippee-Rice, Debra Kimball and Liz Kotowski, alternate, who was seated for Paul Miliotis. Guests were Patricia and Raymond Bateman, residents.

Conservation Easements: The Batemans were interested in the possibility of conserving their 25+ acre property, rather than subdividing it into lots. The parcel is mostly open pasture with 1125 feet of frontage along Stage Road (Route 152). The back boundary lies along the North River. Members were shown a preliminary subdivision plan that could possibly allow four additional lots apart from the parent lot. The Batemans would be satisfied to receive a reasonable reimbursement for the loss in property market value if they move forward with a conservation easement on the open space. The Commission members expressed an interest on behalf of the town to preserve the scenic viewscape and agricultural use of the large pasture area in addition to the continued protection of the natural undisturbed buffer along the river. They were encouraged to speak with Dan Kern, Bear-Paw Regional Greenways (BPRG) Executive Director, and to ask about a conservation appraisal. Such a study would determine the fair market value of the entire parcel without the restrictions of a conservation easement deed. The Batemans thanked the Commission and left the meeting.

Litter Free NH Program: The Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRA) assist communities interested in sponsoring a town wide roadside cleanup activity. Demeritt read the "punch list" of preparations that would be helpful in our planning. Members decided that this would be appropriate to schedule for the following weekend (May 19) after Nottingham's Earth Day celebration (May 12). Information and litterbags would be available for distribution at the Commission's booth on Earth Day. The event will also be advertised on local social media sites and distributed pamphlets.

Lamprey River Watershed Association: Demeritt represents Nottingham on this regional board. There was no meeting on March 12, because a quorum of members was not present.

Bear-Paw Regional Greenways: Demeritt announced that the Third Annual Breakfast in the Barn, Growing the Greenways Fundraiser is scheduled for April 28, from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM at the Kitz Farm in Strafford.

Conservation Easement for town owned Kennard Parcel: The final bill compiled for the Kennard conservation easement from BPRG dated December 31, 2017 and received by the Commission on January 10, 2018 for administrative work, survey and monitoring (\$16030.25) did not reflect the total amount that the Commission had previously approved to be dedicated from the Conservation Fund. Shippee-Rice moved that the Commission authorize an additional \$3530.25 to be removed from the Fund to bring the

total commitment to \$16030.25. Kotowski seconded the motion. All five (5) votes were in favor.

Trails Committee Report: Kotowski related that a grant proposal to the National Park Foundation, National Wild and Scenic Rivers Program, was submitted by the Committee with assistance from the Lamprey River Advisory Committee (LRAC). Mark West, Celia Abrams, Leanne Gast and Kotowski worked to put the proposal together. The grant proposal was one of three sponsored by LRAC for the Great Bay, Lamprey River Watershed area. Applicants will be notified of the status of their applications in April.

(Note: Shippee-Rice left at 8:40 PM.)

Kotowski requested that the Terninko Trails Team be reimbursed for map-making expenses. She will bring a receipt to the next meeting.

Kotowski proposed that the Merriam / Daggett and the Tasker properties be collectively known as the Marsh Woods Conservation Area, to acknowledge previous property owners and to combined as one trail project. Mooney moved that the Merriam/Daggett property and the Tasker Property be known as the Marsh Woods Conservation Area. Kimball seconded the motion. All four (4) votes were in favor. (Note: The town of Nottingham owns both parcels, and the conservation easements are held by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Wetlands Reserve Program.)

Correspondence:

- Intent to Cut: Map 31, Lot 10, Sublot 3; of 72.61 acres, to cut 55. The property is located at 326 Stage Road.
- Received 3/7/18, #2017-03294, a DES Wetlands and Non-site Specific Permit to construct a 900 square foot perched beach and five (5) foot wide access stairs located at Map 67, Lot 23 on Pawtuckaway Lake. Frontage on the lake is an average of 118 feet. The application was approved as long as fourteen (14) site specific and seven (7) general conditions are followed.
- Received 3/5/18, #2018-00551, from DES, a Shoreland Permit by Notification was denied to convert a porch into living space. Applicant also failed to submit plans outlining proposed areas that would be impacted during construction.

Due to the late hour, a second meeting was scheduled for March 19, during which time past meeting minutes would be reviewed.

It was moved by Mooney and seconded by Kimball to adjourn. All four (4) votes were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan P. Mooney Secretary.

These minutes were approved as corrected at the meeting held on April 9, 2018.