

Chairperson Sam Demeritt opened the meeting at 7:07 PM. Other members in attendance were Paul Miliotis, Cheryl Smith, Susan Mooney, Kristen Lamb, Raelene Shippee-Rice and Debra Kimball.

Guests were Barbara Richter, Executive Director of the NH Association of Conservation Commissions (NHACC), Emma Tutein, Natural Resources and Land Conservation Field Specialist, UNH Cooperative Extension and Amanda Stone, Natural Resources and Land Conservation State Specialist, UNH Cooperative Extension.

Additional Guests were John Terninko, resident and Dr. Dale Rice, resident.

Announcements: There were none.

Presentation by Amanda Stone: "Taking Action for Wildlife", a team collaboration with UNH Cooperative Extension, NH Fish and Game (NHF&G) and the NHACC. Ms. Stone summarized the recent Wildlife Action Plan Update. Updates are done on a ten (10) year cycle to gather data and compile the information in order to determine habitat types, their qualities and the distribution of wildlife and natural resources in the state. The goal is to keep common species common and to continue to protect species of concern. The data collected is a collaborative effort of all conservation groups all over the state. The Wildlife Action Plan chapters are available to viewers at the NHF&G website. On the Taking Action for Wildlife website (NHWAP) is a list of species of greatest concern in NH along habitat profiles. It is still a work in progress. Also available at NHWAP is a four (4) page executive summary of the initiative.

Commission members were given copies of three (3) handouts: "5 Ways Land Trusts Can Take Action for Wildlife", "5 Ways Landowners Can Take Action for Wildlife", and "5 Ways Communities Can Take Action for Wildlife". These handouts will be made available at Blaisdell Memorial Library (BML) for patrons to review.

Members and guests looked at two large format maps: "2015 Highest Ranked Wildlife Habitat by Ecological Conditions" and "NH Wildlife Habitat Land Cover 2015 by Habitat Type". The former map contained significant areas in Nottingham represented in pink, which is ranked "Tier 1" habitat (the highest quality). Tier 1 areas represent just 15% of the state of NH. Additional areas in Nottingham were represented in green, the Tier 2 supporting habitats for Tier 1. Combined Tier 1 and Tier 2 areas cover 30 % of the state. The latter map showed a total of 18 habitat types, not all of which are found in Nottingham. (The website for the NH Wildlife Action Plan is

www.wildlife.state.nh.us/wildlife/way.html). As expected, there are extensive water resources and Appalachian mixed forests of primarily oak and white pine denoted on the map. It was suggested that the new data provides an ideal opportunity to update the Natural Resource Inventory (NRI) in Nottingham, one of the tasks of a town's conservation commission. And this tool, in turn, would then provide the content for updating the town's master plan chapter on natural resources. The Taking Action for

Wildlife website (<https://takingactionforwildlife.org>) gives examples and steps on how to move forward with the NRI in a community.

Ms. Stone, Ms. Tutein and Ms. Richter left the meeting at 8:32 PM.

Outreach Program: Ms. Lamb reminded Commission Members about the outreach program “Big Night”, to be held on Thursday evening, April 6, at BML. The theme will be the migration of amphibians to their birth vernal pools on a spring night when conditions are just right. On “Big Night” (and at other times) people often will assist adult frogs, toads and salamanders across roads safely so they are able to reach their vernal pools to breed and lay eggs.

Ms. Lamb also stated that she has been able to secure turtle crossing signs from NHF&G, Non-Game Division, for three town road locations in Nottingham. (State highways are not permitted).

Conservation Easements (CE): Mr. Terninko presented a potential new easement to the Commission. He owns a 40-acre parcel on Case Road across from his house, Map 9, Lot 10. About 30 acres is already in an easement and is currently managed for Eastern Cottontail habitat. The remaining area is approximately eight (8) acres in field where he has a vegetable garden, plus about two (2) wooded acres. Mr. Terninko would like to put this remaining ten (10) acre area into a CE held locally, either by Bear-Paw Regional Greenways (BPRG) land trust or by the Town of Nottingham. Nottingham already holds an easement for another of Mr. Terninko’s properties and the Commission is willing to hold this proposed one as well. Mr. Terninko asked if the Commission (on behalf of the town) would support this easement financially. We discussed this proposal and we were in agreement. Demeritt will inquire at BPRG how much the executive preparation work would cost, and how much the property would be valued for development. When figures are calculated by BPRG and discussions continue with Mr. Terninko, the Commission will entertain a motion in order to move ahead with the CE project.

Mr. Terninko left the meeting at 9:07.

Ms. Lamb had left the meeting at 9:05.

Minutes: Members reviewed the Draft #2 minutes of the Shea Concrete Site Walk that was held on March 21, 2017. Smith moved to accept the minutes, Shippee-Rice seconded the motion. All six (6) votes were in favor. Mooney will forward these site walk minutes to the Planning Board. (Shea Concrete has a conditional approval on an application by the Board.) In consideration of the late hour, other minutes were postponed to a future meeting.

Shea Concrete: Commission members reviewed the set of new site plans from Shea Concrete that were received earlier today. The new plans indicated the 12-inch drainage

pipe located under the entrance driveway and appeared to empty water into the wetland area. The plans state that the drainage pipe will be plugged and the water will be diverted toward NH Route 4 along the west side of the driveway. After a short discussion, it was moved by Shippee-Rice and seconded by Kimball that Demeritt write to DES Wetlands Bureau to request a 90-day extension in order to have time to review this application. All five (5) votes were in favor.

Adopt a Highway Roadside Cleanup will be held on April 19, commencing at 8:30 AM.

Shippee-Rice, Kimball and Dr. Rice left the meeting at 9:25 PM.

Intent to Cut: Map 29, Lot 12, at Nottingham School on Stage Road. The property contains a total of 75 acres; no acreage was indicated for the cut (less than one acre).

From DES Wetlands Bureau: DES has received the Wetland and Shoreland application for the site located at 28 Barderry Lane (see previous meeting minutes).

Reimbursement: It was moved by Smith and seconded by Miliotis to reimburse Demeritt \$1.74 for photos taken during the Shea Concrete site walk. All four (4) votes were in favor.

Adjournment: It was moved by Mooney and seconded by Smith to adjourn the meeting. All four (4) votes were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan P. Mooney, Secretary

These minutes were accepted as corrected at the meeting held on May 16, 2017.