



OFFICE OF THE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
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Conservation Commission Minutes **Monday, September 25, 2017**

Approved: October 23, 2017

Meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by Chairman Jeff Haight
Members present: Alan Chaney, Juan Amodei, Kieran Meehan and Leah Basbanes
Members absent: Marilyn Pike
Meeting held: At the Dunstable Town Hall– 511 Main Street-lower level– Grange Room

Meeting Minutes – September 11th

Alan made a motion to accept the minutes of the September 11th meeting, as submitted.
Kieran 2nd the motion. – Motion passed with Jeff abstaining from the vote.

Bills/Payroll

No bills. Kieran made a motion to sign the Administrative Assistant's payroll. Juan 2nd the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

Maintenance at Flat Rock Hill – Alan made a motion to spend no more than \$3,200 from the Conservation Land Fund to pay for tree removal and mowing of a pasture at Flat Rock Hill. Kieran 2nd the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

Kendall Cranberry Bog Grant Application Update

No word from the state on the application. Alan said he made an attempt to contact Ms. Henry.

Flat Rock Hill Update from State on Use of Field

The Administrative Assistant told members that Melissa Cryan from the State said "*If the mowing and sheep grazing won't impact the environmental resources of the site and all residents were given the opportunity to use the same acreage, the town can proceed. If residents have not been given the opportunity to use the site, the town will have to advertise prior to allowing the resident to use the site.*" Alan said that after Longo Landscaping has removed the trees and field maintenance has been completed, the Commission will advertise for a flock of sheep and proper temporary fencing to graze on the parcel. The advertising will be on the town website and Town Hall bulletin board.

October 9th Meeting – Holiday

Alan made a motion to give the Administrative Assistant the authority to cancel the Conservation Commission meeting if no agenda items are scheduled by October 3rd.

Open Space and Recreation Seven Year Action Plan

Members reviewed and updated the Seven Year Action Plan that goes into the Open Space and Recreation Plan.



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Additional Topics Discussed Not Noted on the Agenda

Forest Cutting Plans – Hogg, Kennedy and Town Forest

Alan reported that there were five bidders and the same outfit (CCM Logging & Landclearing) was awarded all three bids. As soon as the contracts have been signed, the Commission will receive 50% of the estimated value. Alan said that the market is good, the quality of wood is good, access is good and the land is well drained. Cutting will be from November 1, 2017 through April 30, 2018. The parcels are not in Natural Heritage territory. The Forester has already talked to and will be getting "Right of Way" Agreements from neighbors. The Hogg property will be a Legacy Cut meaning that the largest healthiest trees will be left. Leah made a motion for Alan to sign the contracts. Juan 2nd the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

Pleasant Street Extension

A resident from Pleasant Street Extension came into the meeting to thank the Commission. He said that there seems to be fewer 4-wheelers going through the area. There are now gates, signage and large stones as barricades to deter ATVs from going through the wetland. The resident said that the gate has been open and members wondered if the utility company left it that way until they get a key to the Fire Chief. It was discussed that members of the Commission need to identify the owner of the poles to see if they are electric or telephone poles. Alan said that they would (per the request of the resident) post signs for the public to stay out of the wetlands. The resident said that the Commission has his permission to access his property in order to get out to the area to view the posts. Members will go out to the site on Saturday.

Conservation Restrictions – Flat Rock Hill, Howard's Brook and Best

The Administrative Assistant handed out the applications for the Conservation Restrictions for the Flat Rock Hill, Howard's Brook and Best to be signed.

Unkety Woods Preserve

Leah said that she had been contacted by a resident who pointed out that the access to Unkety Woods Preserve and the parking are poor. Members decided that they would go out to the site on Saturday, September 30th at 9am.

Motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to close the meeting at 8:50pm.
Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Mann
Administrative Assistant
Dunstable Conservation Commission