

1 Sandown Conservation Commission  
2 Minutes  
3 December 5, 2013  
4

5 **Date:** December 5, 2013

6 **Place:** Sandown Town Hall

7 **Members Present:** Paul Carey – Chair, Brian Butler-Vice Chair, Joe McKinnon, Kevin Major,  
8 Andrea Cairns

9 **Members Absent:** Mark Traeger

10 **Selectmen Liaison:** Jim Devine: Present

11 **Environmental Consultant:** Gerry Miller: Present  
12

13 **Opening:** Mr. Carey opened the meeting at 7:01 p.m.  
14

15 **Review of the 11/21/13 Minutes**

16 L66 change “poll” to “pole”

17 L97 change “pump” to “pipe”

18 L115 change “impact” to “dredge”  
19

20 **MOTION:** Mr. Devine made a motion to approve the 11/21/13 minutes as amended. Mr.  
21 Butler seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.  
22

23 Mr. Carey noted that Mr. Major was sworn in and has become a voting member.  
24

25 **Trail Projects**

26 Mr. Major and his wife would like to construct a trail system on the Drowne parcel. He  
27 noted they have not done trail work before. He has a lot of research to do on how it needs  
28 to be done. He sent a letter to Tim Peloquin, the surveyor of the land, explaining what  
29 their intent was and noted it would be helpful if he could provide some of the  
30 topographical information he has but he hasn’t heard back from him. Mr. Major also  
31 asked if Mr. Peloquin would like to help. Mr. Major felt the best way to begin a trail  
32 project would be to have a sub-committee to pass around ideas.  
33

34 Mr. Carey noted when they created trails in the Fremont Road town forest, they would go  
35 out and put up flags where they thought trails would be appropriate and then everyone  
36 else would go out and test the trails. He doesn’t feel they need a sub-committee, but noted  
37 it would be a lot of work.  
38

39 Mr. Butler questioned if he intended on using existing trails, making new trails, or  
40 improving some old trails. Mr. Major noted he was hoping to do new trails. During the  
41 walk, he saw some interesting aspects of the property and he would like to get those  
42 interesting aspects on a map and mark them, then step back and look at the geography to  
43 determine how to get to them with a trail system.  
44

45 Mr. Carey noted the Commission purchased a GPS that is available to use.  
46

47 Mr. Major asked Mr. Miller if he marked some of the coordinates that he used when they  
48 walked the property. Mr. Miller noted he hadn't and just walked the property from  
49 memory.

50

51 Mr. Butler noted he took a seminar on trail building and one item he remembered from  
52 the class was that a trail shouldn't be straight because it is monotonous to walk. You  
53 always want to be curious about what's around the corner.

54

55 Mr. Major noted he would like to involve other parcels if possible, including the  
56 Drowne's property and his own property.

57

58 Mr. Carey thought the trails were a wonderful idea and is happy that Mr. Major is  
59 enthusiastic about the project.

60

61 Mr. Miller questioned if there are there any limitations to what they could do based on  
62 the easement that is on the land—could they improve the landing area and incorporating  
63 parking. Mr. Carey thought the only limitation was mining, but noted Mr. Traeger is  
64 fluent in the agreements and could answer that question.

65

66 Mr. Miller also noted that Mr. Peloquin still hasn't set the bounds. Once those are set you  
67 can use the GPS to locate the ends and give yourself edge lines for making trails. That  
68 item has to be taken care of before any work is done.

69

70 Mr. Major noted he would want to present a plan and acknowledged it would take a  
71 while.

72

73 Mr. Butler noted he felt they should try and keep the trails on town property and any  
74 trails that go on other property could be secondary trails.

75

76 Mr. Major asked if the 10 acre parcel on Snow Lane was marked. Mr. Miller noted the  
77 plans indicated that the bounds were set.

78

79 Mr. Butler noted that the easement allows for parking but often they have issues with  
80 signs.

81

82 Mr. Major noted initially he will focus on the trails and features and let the project  
83 develop from there. If we do it right, we can do it for zero dollars.

84

### 85 **Correspondence**

86 Notice from PSNH that they submitted the wetlands permit.

87

88 Notice from the Planning Board that the Janco application received conditional approval

89

90 Two bank statements

91

92 SE Landtrust newsletter

93

94 **Road side clean-up on 121A**

95 Mr. McKinnon noted there is a home at 174 N. Main Street right after the Exeter River  
96 heading north that has a significant amount of trash. He brought it up to the Selectmen.  
97 He showed the board photos that he took.

98  
99 Mr. Carey explained, as much as it seems like a conservation issue, it would be referred  
100 to the code enforcement officer. If they aren't breaking any rules, we can't do anything  
101 about it.

102  
103 Mr. Miller noted if there is an issue regarding a wetlands violation and you can see it  
104 from the road, then you can file a complaint with DES. You have to be able to see it  
105 without trespassing though.

106  
107 Mr. McKinnon mentioned he went on the property and took pictures. Mr. Carey  
108 reminded him they aren't allowed to do that. They can never go on property without the  
109 homeowner's permission.

110  
111 Mr. McKinnon mentioned that Mr. Traeger met him there and suggested that Mr.  
112 McKinnon go in and clean it up. Mr. Miller noted the only problem with that is that it  
113 could be considered theft of property. Mr. Carey noted he disagrees with Mr. Traeger and  
114 felt Mr. McKinnon shouldn't do that. He suggested he could knock on the door and ask  
115 permission to clean-it up. Inform him as softly as he can, we are here to help and from  
116 there, if he is really in violation, then we go through the proper channels and inform DES.

117  
118 **Discussion Regarding Land Clearing on Route 121**

119 Mr. Butler noted he was informed that there is someone on Route 121 clearing their lot.  
120 He went and looked at the property and he doesn't see any issues with it. It's not a large  
121 area of space.

122  
123 Mr. Miller noted he doesn't need any permits if it's less than an acre and it doesn't seem  
124 like there is anything to be concerned about.

125  
126 Members agreed it was not in their jurisdiction.

127  
128 **Jimmy Beucler-Eagle Scout**

129 Mr. Carey gave the new members a history of the project.

130  
131 Mr. Beucler noted he has completed the project. The trails, the signs and the kiosk are  
132 finished. He completed everything in their agreement. He showed some photos to the  
133 Board.

134  
135 He had a form for the Board to sign and suggested that some of the commission meet up  
136 and walk the trail together. He thought they could check off each item on the agreement.

137  
138 Members agreed they were very happy with the results and were happy to sign the  
139 paperwork approving the project. Members expressed that it was a fantastic experience  
140 for him and he did a great job navigating through the government and civic issues.

141

142 Mr. Carey signed the paperwork.

143

144 Mrs. Beucler noted for a previous project, the Commission donated daffodil bulbs and  
145 asked if they had some that she could plant around the sign. Members noted that they  
146 were donated through a road clean-up project that they did but would support her planting  
147 some.

148

149 Mr. Beucler noted the dedication would be either before the winter or in the spring, but  
150 likely in the spring and he hoped the Commission could attend.

151

**152 Old Business**

153 Mr. Miller asked the Commission if they wanted to report to DES that they have not  
154 received additional information from Mr. Lavelle on the Meghan Drive fire pond. One of  
155 the requirements from DES was that they keep the Commission updated and any new  
156 information that was sent to DES should also be sent to the Commission.

157

158 Mr. Carey noted he felt they did a thorough job with the CUP and the notations they  
159 wanted to see. He feels they did their best to cover the town for liability and he would say  
160 he is comfortable with the CUP part of the process and they could let the state deal with  
161 the dredge and fill aspect of it on their own.

162

163 Mr. Miller noted they came up with a list of items on the first submission, that were  
164 incorrect and confusing and they sent a note to DES with their comments. DES sent a  
165 response to Mr. Lavelle with a number of the same items plus a few others indicating the  
166 deficiencies. At the end of all the conditions, they indicated any submission of new items  
167 also had to be sent to Conservation and that hasn't occurred.

168

169 Members agreed they should send a letter to Eban Lewis notifying him they have not  
170 received that information yet.

171

172 Mr. Miller noted as of today they indicated they have received more information but  
173 nothing has been approved or disapproved. Conservation has not received anything since  
174 that letter.

175

**176 New Business**

177 Mr. Major hasn't asked Jim Bassett to till the garden yet but he will.

178

179 **MOTION:** Mr. Major made a motion to adjourn. Mr. McKinnon seconded the motion. All  
180 members voted unanimously in favor. The motion passed. MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:10 p.m.

181

182 Respectfully Submitted,



183

184 Andrea Cairms