

1 **Sandown Conservation Commission**
2 **Minutes**
3 **January 14, 2016**

4
5 **Date:** January 14, 2016

6 **Place:** Sandown Town Hall

7 **Members Present:** Paul Carey – Chair, Brian Butler – Vice Chair, Pam Gaudreau,
8 Tom Sands, Terry Knuuttenen, Sophie Dykeman

9 **Members Absent:** Kevin Major, Mark Traeger

10 **Selectmen’s Liaison:** Jon Goldman: Present

11 **Environmental Consultant:** Bruce Gilday: Present

12
13 Mr. Carey opened the meeting at approximately 7:02 p.m.

14
15 Ms. Dykeman was appointed in place of Mr. Traeger.

16
17 **Review of the 12/17/15 Minutes**

18 L3, 5 – Change the date from 12/18/15 to 12/17/15

19 **MOTION:** Mr. Butler made a motion to approve the 12/17/15 minutes as amended.
20 Mr. Knuuttenen seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. The motion
21 passed.

22
23 **Correspondence**

- 24 • *Great Bay Matters* magazine
- 25 • Notification that the applicant at 55 Phillipswood received the Shoreland
26 Impact permit

27
28 **Update on Trails at Odell Road**

29 Mr. Major was not present to discuss.

30
31 **Bruce Gilday - Disbursement of state ARM funds for land preservation**

32 Mr. Gilday explained how the state’s ARM Funds are acquired and how they get
33 disbursed. He feels they should apply for funds and it is something they should
34 discuss in the spring.

35
36 Mr. Gilday discussed the status of statewide wetland setback regulations. He doesn’t
37 feel it will happen anytime soon and will keep the board up-to-date.

38
39 **Update on potential wetland violation at 11 Penacook Rd.**

40 Mr. Gilday and Mr. Traeger did a site visit to the property. They didn’t feel the
41 homeowners were disturbing any wetlands. They discussed the requirements at the
42 state level.

43

44 Mr. Gilday explained how he determines if there is a jurisdictional wetland. If the
45 land is left in a natural state, there are three factors that make up a jurisdictional
46 wetland: predominance of vegetation where 50% of the plants are wetland plants;
47 hydric soils within 20 inch depth; and primary and secondary hydrological
48 indicators within that 20" depth (where is the water table?). If any of those factors
49 fall out, then you don't have a wetland.

50

51 Mr. Gilday observed that the setting wasn't in its natural state. There was a
52 depression that existed and the homeowner excavated down about 40". He
53 extended the existing depression about 10'. It was originally all well-drained soils.
54 When a property is not left in its natural state, he refers to the Army Corps of
55 Engineers manual to figure out atypical sites. He looked in the stockpiles and saw
56 hydric soils. He couldn't see any remnants of wetland species. He consulted the state
57 and they trusted his judgment. The homeowner was not in violation. The
58 homeowner is looking to make a pond, possibly for ducks or ice skating. Mr. Gilday
59 made some recommendations on how to improve and stabilize the site for safety.

60

61 **Review of 2016 Goals**

62 Mr. Butler recommended that everyone think about what they want to accomplish
63 over the next year, whether it was more events, more education or more
64 improvements to town-owned property.

65

66 Mr. Butler questioned if they should do a forestry management plan for the Wells
67 Village Road property. He noted they need to get an update on Mr. Moreno's work
68 with NRCS to find out how much has already been completed.

69

70 Mr. Butler suggested updating the website so it has current content. Ms. Dykeman
71 noted she would be willing to help generate that content.

72

73 Mr. Gilday noted they need to get forms into the ARM program by June or July.

74

75 Members discussed clearing trails and addressing other properties other than the
76 Fremont Road Town Forrest. Mr. Knuuttenen suggested marking some of the trails
77 better.

78

79 Members discussed having more events like the snowshoe walk and educational
80 walks. Mr. Knuuttenen noted he was hoping to do a full moon snowshoe walk on
81 Saturday, January 23rd at 8:00 p.m. at the Fremont Road Town Forest.

82

83 Members discussed creating a list of potential eagle scout projects.

84

85 **New Business**

86 Ms. Cairns presented the summary for the town report. Ms. Gaudreau suggested
87 adding a blurb about Old Home Days.

88

89

90 **Old Business**

91 Members discussed the petition warrant article and how they would approach
92 getting the word out to the public. Ms. Dykeman presented several documents she
93 got from NHACC regarding the topic. She offered to create a one-page fact sheet that
94 could be distributed to the public to inform them what LUCT was and why it was
95 important to use if for conservation. Ms. Dykeman offered to update the
96 Conservation Commission Facebook page.

97

98 Mr. Goldman joined the meeting. Members continued to discuss the petition warrant
99 article and inform Mr. Goldman on the details.

100

101 **MOTION:** Ms. Knuuttenen made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Sands seconded the
102 motion. All members voted unanimously in favor. The motion passed. MEETING
103 ADJOURNED at approximately 9:15 p.m.

104

105 Respectfully Submitted,



106

107 Andrea Cairns