

1 **Sandown Conservation Commission**
2 **Minutes**
3 **January 28, 2016**

4
5 **Date:** January 28, 2016

6 **Place:** Sandown Town Hall

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

9 **Members Absent:** Mark Traeger, Pam Gaudreau

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

11 **Environmental Consultant:** Bruce Gilday: Absent

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

14
15 **Review of the 1/14/16 Minutes**

16 **MOTION:** Mr. Major made a motion to approve the 1/14/16 minutes as amended. Mr.
17 Sands seconded the motion. Members voted in favor. Mr. Major abstained. The motion
18 passed.

19
20 Ms. Dykeman joined the meeting and was appointed as a voting member. Mr. Butler
21 joined the meeting.

22
23 **Correspondence**

- 24 • American Water Works Association workshop
25 • Town & City Magazine

26
27 Mr. Major got clarification from the board on the site visit Mr. Gilday did.

28
29 **Update on Trail Construction on the Odell Road Property**

30 Mr. Butler explained the difference between “town forest” and “conservation property.”
31 A town forest has to be created by a town vote and there are certain stipulations outlined
32 in RSA 110-113 that make it a town forest. He added that one of the benefits to creating a
33 town forest is if we do a logging operation in a town forest, the proceeds go the forestry
34 management fund. If it’s done on conservation property 85% goes into the general fund
35 and 15% goes into the forestry fund.

36
37 Mr. Carey noted that conservation properties are self funded through the forestry
38 management account. Tax dollars do not go towards managing these properties. The
39 forestry management fund was established to make sure of that.

40
41 Mr. Butler noted some of the conservation properties that are not under an easement can
42 be sold by the town through a vote. A town forest is harder to sell. He noted that’s why
43 when they create a warrant article to make a property into a town forest, they also include
44 that it will be protected by an easement held by a third party.

45 Mr. Major reviewed the trail construction project. He pointed out where the trail was
46 located. The trail enters off Odell Road and comes out on Hersey Road. He is working
47 with Craig Beucler. They have it all flagged. It is pretty well established. It's about a mile
48 with a lot of changes in elevation. It meets the old logging road for a small portion. The
49 logging road gets cut off by one of the house lots so the trail doesn't continue on it.

50

51 One of Mr. Major's goals is to make a trail from Snow Lane to meet it. He needs to find
52 another scout to build it. Craig's plan is to have the trail finished this year and put in a
53 kiosk at the end of the parking lot off Odell Road. If you decide to go out, it is flagged
54 with lime green flags.

55

56 Mr. Major added a personal goal of his is to connect trails by gaining access through
57 some of the private lots and connect the trails to the one off of Morrison Lane.

58

59 **Review of Website Content**

60 Ms. Dykeman noted the current site is difficult to navigate and asked if they had any
61 ability to do anything other than add content. Mr. Carey noted they can't change the
62 structure of the site and noted they need to stay on the town site. He gave a history of
63 their old site and the transition to the town site.

64

65 Ms. Dykeman noted that they could do a free website through Weebly. The url would
66 need to contain ".weebly" and there would be a small byline on the site indicating it's a
67 Weebly site.

68

69 Mr. Carey and Mr. Butler suggested she review the content of the site and make a list of
70 what she wanted to change.

71

72 Ms. Dykeman suggested somehow having "breadcrumbs" for navigation so people knew
73 where they were on the site.

74

75 Mr. Major suggested they could stay on the town website but have every link lead to their
76 own site.

77

78 Ms. Dykeman noted Facebook is great for getting out information that is time sensitive,
79 but it gets buried. It's not great for large amounts of text. It should be utilized for photos
80 and time sensitive content.

81

82 Ms. Dykeman noted if we are thinking of creating our own site, we need to think about
83 what people want to get out of it.

84

85 The board agreed to give thought to the content and discuss it again at the next meeting.

86

87 Ms. Dykeman noted they should be able to at least integrate Facebook with the news
88 page.

89

90 **Review of 2016 Goals**

91 Members agreed updating the website is important.

92

93 Mr. Major noted he would like to utilize state GIS resources to map all their trails. Mr.
94 Carey noted they started to do that a long time ago. Mr. Major noted the state of NH
95 decided to map the entire state and they've created highly accurate maps of all the streets
96 in the state. It would be nice if they could map out conservation properties with that
97 technology. He would love to make that an Eagle Scout project for the right scout.

98

99 Mr. Knuuttenen said he would like to do events throughout the year that were sponsored
100 by conservation. They could have naturalists come out and have educational components.
101 geocaching, kayaking, etc.

102

103 Ms. Dykeman asked if there was a budget. Mr. Carey noted they had the education and
104 awareness line item in the budget.

105

106 Mr. Major pointed out that February 21st is the next full moon and they could do another
107 full moon snowshoe walk. It's the first weekend of NH school vacation. They could have
108 a bonfire and snacks.

109

110 Mr. Carey suggested that Mr. Knuuttenen talk to Mr. Traeger since he has run a lot of
111 events and would be a great resource.

112

113 Mr. Sands noted there is a large event in April that the geocachers participate in. It's a
114 huge clean-up event. They could do something here in town. Members suggested having
115 a large clean-up of great rock every year.

116

117 **New Business**

118 Mr. Butler noted that Brianna sent out all the donation letters for the fishing derby
119 already. It's always the second weekend of spring school vacation. Hampstead is always
120 the first weekend.

121

122 Mr. Carey explained they have the ability to create subcommittees.

123

124 The scouts sent a thank you for the conservation commission for their help on the spooky
125 walk and were thankful they could use the town forest.

126

127 **Non-Public Meeting**

128 **MOTION:** Mr. Butler made a motion to go into a Non-Public Meeting according to
129 RSA: 91: A: 3 II d. Mr. Major seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. The
130 motion passed.

131

132 **MOTION:** Mr. Major made a motion to seal the minutes. Mr. Butler seconded the
133 motion. Members voted in favor. The motion passed.

134

135 *Roll Call:* Mr. Carey, Ms. Gaudreau, Mr. Butler, Mr. Sands, Mr. Knuuttunen

136

137 **MOTION:** Ms. Dykeman made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Sands seconded the motion. All
138 members voted unanimously in favor. The motion passed. MEETING ADJOURNED at
139 approximately 8:54 p.m.

140

141 Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andrea Cairns".

142

143 Andrea Cairns

144