

1 **Sandown Conservation Commission**
2 **Minutes**
3 **March 24, 2016**

4
5 **Date:** March 24, 2016

6 **Place:** Sandown Town Hall

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

9 **Members Absent:** Paul Carey – Chair, Mark Traeger

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

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

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

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15 Mr. Butler appointed Ms. Dykeman as a voting member in place of Mr. Traeger.

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17 **Review of the 2/25/16 Minutes**

18 **MOTION:** Mr. Major made a motion to approve the 2/25/16 minutes as written. Ms.
19 Gaudreau seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

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21 **Review of the 2/25/16 Non-Public Minutes**

22 **MOTION:** Mr. Major made a motion to approve the 2/25/16 non-public minutes as
23 written. Ms. Gaudreau seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. The motion
24 passed.

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26 Mr. Knuuttenen joined the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

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28 **Correspondence**

- 29 • A letter from SE Landtrust notifying the town that they will do their yearly
30 easement monitoring for 2016 by reviewing aerial photos
- 31 • SE Landtrust Newsletter
- 32 • Letter from Mark Traeger requesting to be reappointed to the Conservation
33 Commission. **MOTION:** Ms. Gaudreau made a motion to reappoint Mr. Traeger
34 as a member of the Conservation Commission for a three-year term. Mr. Sands
35 seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.
- 36 • *Town & City Magazine*
- 37 • Notification from DES about possible violations on a property located at 38 Main
38 Street. Mr. Gilday will follow up on this project.
- 39 • Notification from DES that a shoreland permit was granted for the property at 29
40 Brown Ave.

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42 **Election of Officers**

43 **MOTION:** Mr. Major made a motion to appoint Mr. Carey as Chairman. Mr. Sands
44 seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

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46 **MOTION:** Ms. Gaudreau made a motion to appoint Mr. Butler as Vice Chairman. Mr.
47 Knuuttenen seconded the motion. Members voted in favor. Mr. Butler abstained. The
48 motion passed.

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50 Mr. Major requested to be reappointed to the Conservation Commission.

51 **MOTION:** Ms. Gaudreau made a motion to reappoint Mr. Major to the Conservation
52 Commission for a three-year term. Ms. Dykeman seconded the motion. All members
53 voted in favor. The motion passed.

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55 **Community Garden**

56 *Christopher True, 41 Hunt Pond Road*

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58 Mr. True requested to speak to the board because he had some ideas for the community
59 garden. Last year, he observed some issues with the well. It was a dry year and it went
60 dry. He understood they didn't guarantee that there would be water available, but
61 questioned if the board would consider also keeping the water buffalo filled.

62

63 Mr. Butler noted that if the well pump is primed correctly, it should work. They are
64 hoping to make some improvements—possibly get a tap and run some piping to the water
65 buffalo so they can fill it directly from the well. He noted it is hard for the fire department
66 to get into that location with the tank truck to fill the water buffalo.

67

68 Mr. True added that he would love to see more usage of the garden and questioned if it
69 was possible to add more plots if necessary. Mr. Butler noted they could. It's a
70 tremendous amount of work to do so, but if the demand warrants it, he would be happy to
71 add more space.

72

73 Mr. True also noted he would like to increase awareness of the garden and wondered if a
74 notice could be posted on the town hall sign or possibly the All Japanese Auto sign. Mr.
75 Butler noted he would really like to put a nice wooden sign at the garden.

76

77 Mr. True questioned if they had interest, could they possibly split plots and make them
78 each 10x10. Mr. Butler noted he thought about decreasing the size of the plots and was in
79 favor of splitting them. Mr. True questioned if they could offer the smaller plots to people
80 who use the food pantry and perhaps find garden centers that would be willing to donate
81 plants. He would be willing to contact Arlene Bassett to inquire if there is anyone she
82 thought might be interested in that.

83

84 Mr. Major asked Mr. True what his “pie in the sky” wish would be for water. Mr. True
85 thought faucets at each plot would be great.

86

87 Mr. Butler noted he would like to see a well-house with piping up to the garden.

88

89 Mr. Butler asked Mr. True if he would be interested in being the Community Garden
90 Chairman. Mr. True noted he would be happy to do that.

91

92 Ms. Gaudreau wondered about using rain barrels. Mr. Butler noted they encourage people
93 to use them.

94

95 Mr. Major noted that if the water buffalo was in a different spot, it would be easier to fill.
96 If it was located by the entrance the truck could get right in, but it would eliminate the
97 gravity feed.

98

99 Mr. Butler noted he would prefer to install piping to the water buffalo and invest in a
100 portable pump so they could fill up the water buffalo when needed.

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102 **MOTION:** Mr. Major made a motion to nominate Mr. True as Chairman of the
103 Community Garden. Ms. Gaudreau seconded the motion. All members voted in favor.
104 The motion passed.

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106 **Old Business**

107 Ms. Gaudreau noted she forwarded the board correspondence about 53 Phillipswood
108 Road. Mr. Gilday noted he advised them to contact an environmental consultant to help
109 them do the permitting.

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113 Mr. Butler noted Ms. Cairns contacted Brook Smart for an update regarding the work
114 NRCS is proposing at both the Wells Village Road town forest and the Odell Rd.
115 property. Ms. Smart noted that they are planning forestry management plans for both
116 properties and are working with RCCD to coordinate that work. She also noted the
117 parking lot for Odell Rd. is on a short list of projects.

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121 Mr. Butler noted that Charlie Moreno recommended a timber stand improvement plan for
122 the Odell Road property and hoped that could be part of the project coordinated by
123 NRCS.

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127 Ms. Dykeman noted she reviewed the content on the website and has some
128 recommendations to make. She suggested she could email the document and have
129 everyone review it and send their suggestions back to her vs. having everyone read
130 through the content at the meeting. The board agreed that was the best approach.

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132 **New Business**

133 Mr. Gilday noted he still wanted to host the vernal pool day on May 7th from 9-12 at
134 Snow Lane. He thought it would be good to have just the board there. He asked that no
135 one go down to the property until everyone arrived. May 21st was determined as the rain
136 date.

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Mr. Major noted there is another Eagle Scout interested in a project on Odell Road. He would like to propose a trail from Snow Lane which could connect to the trail that is currently being built by Mr. Craig Beucler. The trail would cross the 10-acre town-owned parcel, connect to the Beucler trail then go to the Danville line.

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144

Mr. Butler noted the last time they did that was for the trails on Morrison Lane. They needed to get approval from the Selectmen to use the town-owned parcel. Mr. Major noted he would like to mimic the Morrison Lane project and create a kiosk with a trail map.

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Mr. Major also noted that the boy scouts had a campout at the log landing area in the Fremont Road Town Forest. They had a fire and burned a lot of brush and cleaned that area out. He noted it was a great spot to camp and questioned if it was ok for them to leave the rock ring there. The board was comfortable leaving it there. Mr. Butler noted if anyone wanted to go out there and use it, they should get a permit.

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Mr. Butler questioned if there were anymore green conservation signs. He would like to add another one at the parking lot off Odell Rd.

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Mr. Gilday asked how the vote for the warrant article went. Ms. Gaudreau noted it passed by 71 votes and was incredibly thankful to the CAW group for their support and help in promoting it. The board thanked the voters of Sandown for their support.

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MOTION: Mr. Major made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Knuuttenen seconded the motion. All members voted unanimously in favor. The motion passed. MEETING ADJOURNED at approximately 8:36 p.m.

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Respectfully Submitted,

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Andrea Cairns