

1 **Sandown Conservation Commission**

2 **Minutes**

3 **February 23, 2017**

4
5 **Date:** February 23, 2017

6 **Place:** Sandown Town Hall

7 **Members Present:** Paul Carey – *Chair*, Brian Butler – *Vice Chair*, Terry Knuuttenen,
8 Pam Gaudreau, Tom Sands, Mark Traeger, Jill Winmill, Katie Palladino

9 **Members Absent:** Kevin Major

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

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

12
13 **Opening:** Mr. Carey opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

14
15 Ms. Winmill was seated for Mr. Major.

16
17 **Review of the 1/26/17 Minutes**

18 **MOTION:** Mr. Traeger made a motion to accept the 1/26/17 minutes as written. Ms.
19 Winmill seconded the motion. Members voted in favor. Ms. Gaudreau, Mr. Sands and
20 Mr. Carey abstained. The motion passed.

21
22 **Review of the 1/26/17 Non-Public Minutes**

23 **MOTION:** Mr. Traeger made a motion to accept the 1/26/17 non-public minutes as
24 amended. Mr. Butler seconded the motion. Members voted in favor. Ms. Gaudreau, Mr.
25 Sands and Mr. Carey abstained. The motion passed.

26
27 **Correspondence**

- 28
- 29 • Save the date for Saving Special Places to be held on April 8, 2017
 - 30 • Vegetation control services
 - 31 • Invitation to Craig Beucler’s Eagle Scout Court of Honor to be held on March 19,
32 2017 at 2:00p.m.
 - 33 • Estimate from Select Excavation was approved by Brooke Smart from NRCS

34 **Joel DeStasio – Trout Unlimited**

35 Mr. DeStasio noted that they are performing wood restoration projects along NRCS
36 easements in rivers and streams that are devoid of large wood. They have been working
37 on the project for three years. The Exeter River has been lower priority because it is so
38 large and they would need to implement different tactics. They work along the banks of
39 the river to create scour pools that help encourage habitat and predatory refuge. They
40 source the wood on-site, outside of the 50’ buffer along the banks of the river.

41
42 Mr. Gilday questioned if they would utilize the roots and stumps of the trees. Mr.
43 DeStasio noted they would. They have a machine they bring in to help them pull the
44 stumps out. They prefer to utilize the stumps because it enhances the non-mobility of the
45 tree to prevent the tree from moving downstream and causing damage.

46

47 They generally perform the work in the low-flow season which is NHDES policy
48 (between June 1-November 1), but if the conditions allow for it, they are hoping to begin
49 sooner, which is why they would like to do an expedited permit.

50
51 Mr. Butler questioned what kind of tree they generally use. Mr. DeStasio noted they try
52 and use oaks or maples which are harder woods. Conifers tend to break down quicker in
53 the water.

54
55 Mr. DeStasio noted they have been doing water quality testing and all tests have been
56 favorable to indicate good fish habitat.

57
58 Mr. Butler noted that Charlie Moreno is doing a forestry management plan on that parcel.
59 Mr. DeStasio noted if there are certain species of trees that Mr. Moreno would like them
60 to keep, let them know.

61
62 Mr. DeStasio added that if they receive approval from NHDES then they will begin in
63 April or May.

64
65 **MOTION:** Mr. Butler made a motion to authorize Mr. Carey to sign the expedited
66 NHDES permit for the Trout Unlimited restoration project along the Exeter River. Mr.
67 Knuuttenen seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. The motion carried.

68
69 **Reappointment of Members**

70 **MOTION:** Mr. Traeger made a motion to reappoint Mr. Sands, Ms. Gaudreau and Mr.
71 Knuuttenen for a three-year term. Mr. Butler seconded the motion. All members voted in
72 favor. The motion passed.

73
74 Mr. Traeger noted since he travelled so much and was unable to make many meetings, he
75 would be willing to become an alternate so a more active person could become a full-
76 time member.

77
78 **MOTION:** Mr. Traeger made a motion to appoint Katie Palladino as a full-time member
79 for a two-year term. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

80
81 **Monthly Happenings**

82 Ms. Winmill and Ms. Palladino will do a St. Patrick's Day event. March 18th will be
83 "Hike off your Hangover" and March 19th will be a guided walk along the new trail at the
84 Wells Village Town Forest.

85
86 Mr. Traeger noted that he will do the guided kayak tour in May with Mr. Meisner.

87
88 Ms. Winmill spoke with the library and they would like to co-sponsor the Raptor Show
89 with Jane Kelly. They suggested doing it over the summer so they could incorporate it
90 into their summer reading schedule and suggested that Recreation may more willing to
91 sponsor it as well since they could use it for their summer program.

92
93
94

95 **Other Business**

96 The Board agreed they would like to keep the current seal as their logo, but maybe update
97 it and add color.

98

99 The Board agreed the additional work on the wall along the Fremont Road Town Forest
100 field is not a priority at this time.

101

102 **New Business**

103 Mr. Butler noted Mr. Moreno will come to the March 23, 2017 meeting to give the Board
104 an update on the forestry management plan for Wells Village Road.

105

106 Mr. Butler noted the fishing derby will be April 29th. Brianna sent out all the donation
107 letters already.

108

109 Ms. Gaudreau asked for the Board's support of the Heritage Commission.

110

111 Mr. Traeger has done some research on doing a bridge at the Wells Village Town Forest
112 trail. He spoke with East Coast Lumber who suggesting using telephone poles. Mr.

113 Traeger will continue to do some research on that option.

114

115 Mr. Gilday would like to do a vernal pool workshop for the Board on May 20th from 9-
116 12. The venue is TBD. He noted NHDES is not reviewing their rule changes with the
117 public yet but will report on them when they are released.

118

119 **MOTION:** Mr. Butler made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Gaudreau seconded the motion.

120 All members voted unanimously in favor. The motion passed. MEETING ADJOURNED
121 at approximately 8:30 p.m.

122

123 Respectfully Submitted,



124

125 Andrea Cairns