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Sandown Conservation Commission
Minutes
May 23,2019

Date: May 23,2019

Place: Sandown Town Hall

Members Present: Jillian Winmill- Chair, Brian Butler- Vice Chair, Paul Carey, Nick Ortins, Christy Ortins, Tom Sands, Terry Knuuttunen

Members Absent: Mark Traeger, Pamela Gaudreau, Melyssa Tapley- Administrative Assistant

Selectmen’s Liaison: Mr. Darren Hudgins: Absent

Opening: Ms. Winmill opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Pursuant to RSA 36-A:5 II, and in accordance with RSA 675:7, The Sandown Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing regarding acquisition of a property, identified as Tax Map 13, Lot 4.

Ms. Winmill opens the Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m.
Mr. Butler spoke. The goal of the Conservation Commission is to expand the Conservation Town Forests and to protect Conservation Property.
The Conservation Commission has been looking at property identified as Tax Map 13, Lot 4 off Wells Village Road. It is 54-acre parcel and is bisected by the Exeter River. Roughly 2,384 feet of the Exeter River flows through this parcel. The property is right by the Wells Village Town Forest and combining the two properties would give the Wells Village Town Forest roughly 254 acres of Conservation Land.
The property is heavily forested and as had no cutting done on it. It is beautiful piece of property and when you walk it you would have no idea you are in Sandown. Mr. Butler and the Ortins walked the property. Mr. Ortins noticed that there are a lot of older trees and would like to get them aged by a licensed arborist.
The Commission has been working with a local realtor of the purchase and sales agreement for the property. The Commission and the landowners have come to an agreement on the purchase price for the property at 70 thousand dollars and a thousand dollars will go to the realtor.
Mr. Carey asked Mr. Butler if the property will be forested in the future. Mr. Butler said yes eventually the property will be forested to promote new

42 growth. Mr. Butler mentioned that a forest is like a garden and you need to
43 care for it so it can be enjoyed for years to come. The Commission has
44 already been to the Board of Selectman for their blessing on the purchase of
45 this property. The Commission has the purchase and sales agreement written
46 up and will be closing on the property soon.

47

48 Ms. Winmill closed the Public Hearing at 7:45p.m.

49 Ms. Winmill opens the regularly scheduled meeting

50

51 **Roll Call:** Jillian Winmill-Chair, Brian Butler- Vice Chair, Paul Carey, Nick
52 Ortins, Christy Ortins, Tom Sands, Terry Knuuttunen

53

54 Ms. Winmill appoints Terry as a voting member in Ms. Gaudreau's place.
55 The Chester Conservation Commission was present at tonight's meeting.

56

57 **Review of the 5/9/2019 minutes**

58 **Motion:**

59 Mr. Carey made a motion to accept the 5/9/2019 minutes as amended. Mr.
60 Butler second the motion. Ms. Winmill called the vote. All in favor. The
61 motion passed. Ms. Winmill, Mr. Sands abstains. (5-2-0)

62

63 **Correspondence**

- 64 • **Rockingham Planning Commission Announcing their**
- 65 **Annual Meeting**
- 66 • **Invite from Southeast Land Trust for their annual**
- 67 **Conservation Celebration on June 12th at Zorvino's.**

68 **Old Business**

69

70 **Angle Pond Grant**

71 Mr. Gilday not present. Table discussion to next meeting.

72

73 **Natural Resource Inventory**

74 Nothing new to report

75

76 **Memorial Day Presentation**

77 Mr. Butler mentioned that the Memorial Day Presentation will be held at the
78 Old Meeting House this year and they would like to use the field adjacent to
79 the Red Barn for parking. Mr. Butler asked Artie Genualdo the Highway
80 Department Director to spread some gravel down to the entrance to the Red
81 Barn to help keep tire tracks of the field. Ms. Tapley was unable to get an

82 invoice from Mr. Genualdo for the work he did before the meeting. Mr.
83 Butler would like to vote to allocate the funds for the project.

84

85 **Motion:**

86 Mr. Butler made a motion to not exceed 300 dollars from the Conservation
87 Fund for the gravel. Mr. Carey second the motion. Ms. Winmill called the
88 vote. All in favor. The motion passed. (7-0-0)

89

90 **Playmates**

91 Ms. Winmill went to Playmates and did a presentation on Bee's and
92 Pollination with the children. She made save the Bee Bracelet's with the
93 children and then went over why we need pollinators. Ms. Winmill also
94 pulled out some different foods and went over with the children which foods
95 need pollinators and which ones don't.

96

97 **Community Garden**

98 Ms. Ortins is the new Chair of the Community Garden. Ms. Ortins contacted
99 Scott Bassett to have him till the garden. He will be tilling the garden on
100 Saturday the 25th and opening day of the garden will be Monday May 27th.
101 Mr. Bassett charges the Commission 75 dollars to till the garden.

102

103 **Motion:**

104 Ms. Ortins made a motion to pay Scott Bassett 75 dollars from the checking
105 account for his work tilling the garden. Mr. Ortins second the motion. Ms.
106 Winmill called the vote. All in favor. The motion passed. (7-0-0)

107

108 **Exeter River Local Advisory Committee**

109 Mr. Carey asked the Commission if ERLAC has been contacted about the
110 Commissions land purchase. ERLAC is a group of people from different
111 Conservation Commissions take hold a meeting to review the Conservation
112 Properties in the area. Mr. Trager is the Representative from Sandown but is
113 looking for another Commission member who has more time to take over his
114 position. Mr. Carey let Mr. Ortins know about the position because Mr.
115 Carey knows Mr. Ortins is interested in that kind of stuff. Mr. Carey also
116 mentioned that the Rockingham Planning Commission is looking for new
117 members.

118

119 **New Business**

120 **Beehive at the Community Garden**

121 Mr. Butler has a beehive up at the Community Garden and has seen lately
122 that there has been a large encroachment of black bears in the area. Mr.

123 Butler is looking into and thinking about putting up a solar powered electric
124 fence around his beehive. Mr. Butler is not sure what he is doing yet but
125 wanted to keep the Commission informed.

126

127 **Scavenger Hunt**

128 Mr. Knuuttunen asked if there will be a Scavenger Hunt this year? Mr.
129 Knuuttunen would like to set up a Night in the Town Forest event where
130 families get the opportunity to camp out in the Town Forest for the night.
131 At the last meeting Chuck Crowe owner of Best Way Wildlife Control came
132 before the Commission after speaking with Ms. Winmill about the scavenger
133 hunt at the fishing derby. Ms. Winmill was not sure if there would be a hunt
134 this year as there might not be funding for it. Mr. Crowe let the Commission
135 and Ms. Winmill know his company would be willing to sponsor and donate
136 the funds for the event this year.

137 Ms. Winmill was also contact by the Library about a campout event they
138 would like to do on June 22nd. Ms. Winmill suggested Mr. Knuuttunen work
139 with the Library on the camp out event and maybe the Scavenger Hunt and
140 Camp out can be an all-day Event.

141 Ms. Winmill will be doing a Swamp Monster Thing theme this year for the
142 hunt.

143

144 **Adjournment**

145 Mr. Carey made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Butler second the motion. Ms.
146 Winmill called the vote. All in favor. The motion passed. Meeting
147 ADJOURNED at 8:30 p.m.

148

149 Respectfully Submitted

150

151 Melyssa Tapley

152