



CONSERVATION COMMISSION

30 PAYSON HILL ROAD

RINDGE, NH 03461

Tel. (603) 899-5181 Fax (603) 899-2101 TDD 1-800-735-2964

Draft Minutes for Meeting on March 10, 2025, 6:30 p.m.

Meeting called to order at 6:34pm

Members present: Friedman, Rubendall, Lefebvre, Drouin, Rogers, Desruisseaux, Dickler, Synnott

OLD BUSINESS

- Natural Resources Mapping update – Friedman
 - Had a training on data management with Rubendall and Mellor.
 - Friedman leaving March 22, returning Memorial Day
 - Mellor will map Schoolhouse, Rubendall will do one mapping solo.
 - Friedman created tracking waypoints cheat sheet, Google drive created for photo storage.
 - August/September meeting with Moosewood for raw data upload for shape files
 - Friedman did online training for town website transition which described new technology and capabilities. Added that he will advocate for access to usage reports for RCC for data tracking.
- Invasive Plant presentation by Brian Colleran & Awarding of Cons. of Year Award (Mar 27)– Lefebvre & Dickler
 - Presentation needs: computer, projector, microphone, camera
 - Dickler drafted press release, will be sent Wednesday 3/13
 - Dickler recommended having a small drink/snacks reception following talk to enhance COTY award presentation. Also asked for discussion on speaker honorarium.
 - Mellor moved to authorize \$200 for an honorarium, seconded by Dickler. Commission voted with all in favor of the motion, motioned passed unanimously.
 - Drouin moved to authorize up to \$50 for reception, seconded by Desruisseaux. Commission voted with all in favor of the motion, motioned passed unanimously.
- Story Mapping Update – Mellor
 - Recommended to continue with project. Commission had agreed with the concept and authorized \$200 for training (3 members) in either April or May. Following training, Mellor will research costs and review subject.
- Earth Day at Cathedral of the Pines, April 26
 - Commission reviewed email from Tom Hsu – Jaffrey Conservation Comm with Earth Day update.
 - Plan moving along with interest from 6 town conservation commissions to participate with tables and presentation materials. Event will include children's crafts, food trucks, electric car/utility show, and community-focused talks.
 - Goals:
 - 1. Provide forum for public to engage with local cons commissions with tables to distribute maps and other items
 - 2. Provide gathering point for conservation commissions in surrounding towns
 - 3. Have fun
 - Proposed Schedule of Events:
 - 8-11a even setup
 - 10-11a guided nature hikes on Cathedral of the Pines property
 - 11a-3p presentations in Hill house with food
 - 11a-2p live music
 - 12-2p – crafts

- 2-4p closing ceremony in Hill House with NH conservation
- Dickler asked for clarity on who is reaching out to what resources and volunteered as official contact person for event/RCC.
- Synnott asked who will be staffing event from RCC and needs. RCC will need to supply table representation and trail guides for Cathedral trail tours.
- Follow-up on advertising question by Lefebvre will be reported in next meeting (April 14)
- Rec Comm update – Synnott
 - Savings Bank of Walpole confirmed \$5,000 donation for Tetreault playscape with credit to Conservation Fund.
 - Commission recommended a formal receipt of the donation for audit purposes.
 - Walmart, NH Charitable Trust and Tractor Supply asks are still outstanding.
 - Synnott meeting with Ann Reed on 3/11 to discuss setting up 501c3
- Conservation Land & Related - Trail Stewards update – Rubendall
 - Three new members, 7-8 total.
 - Training expected in Spring 2025
 - Drouin noted \$1,200 spent in February on plowing, \$600 in previous months. Recommendation to back off on plowing for remainder of the season.
- Goals/plans/strategic planning for 2025 – Drouin
 - Issues to consider, 5 & 10 years out
 - Prior discussion of projects, nothing has been scheduled/detailed as of meeting.
 - Conservation Fund issues
 - Lefebvre noted tie-in with 5/10yr plans and asked commission to consider funding sources and projections including a future conversation on current use land and possible future property acquisitions. Mellor suggested keeping a balance for leverage in future property acquisitions, Dickler recommended setting a minimum balance agreement for Conservation Fund.
 - Drouin asked for subcommittee of 3 members to create long-term planning document to assess and project costs related to Conservation Fund.
 - Lefebvre, Desruisseaux, Mellor volunteered.
 - Hike & Paddle Dates
 - Commission agreed on continuing program in similar format. Drouin asked for recommendation on dates and themes with *2025 Dates and Themes for Public Outreach Events* document passed to commission for discussion.
 - June 15 – Pollinator Week focus at Contoocook.
 - July 13 – National Rock Day focus at Mattabesek
 - August 17 – World Photography Day focus at Converse Meadows, paddle day
 - September 14 – Hug Your Hound Day/Responsible Dog Ownership day focus at Tetreault, possible tie-in with Humane Society.
 - October 19 - Bat Appreciation Month focus at Hunt, tie-in with bats presentation
 - Potential presentations
 - October 13 – bats presentation at Rindge Rec with FPU professor Jacques Veileux
 - Full Moon Hike – potential dates December 4, January 3, February 1. Commission suggested January 31 at Tetreault.
 - January 22 – at Rindge Rec with COTY presentation, topic tbd
 - Workdays
 - Projected schedule of monthly workdays on 2nd Sundays, will plan starting April 2025.

NEW BUSINESS

- N/A

OFFICIAL NOTICES

- NH DES Wetlands Permit by Notification, Map Lot 11, 68 Paradise Island Rd, Gerard Plouffe
 - No signature needed, resolved.
- Planning Bd – Lot line adjustment, Map 29 Lots 7-1 and 8-2, Butterfield Rd & Route 119, Susan Grubis, Nicolas Blair & Mary Robers.



CONSERVATION COMMISSION

30 PAYSON HILL ROAD

RINDGE, NH 03461

Tel. (603) 899-5181 Fax (603) 899-2101 TDD 1-800-735-2964

- Resolved
- Rindge ZBA - Dale Farm Road variance application to construct 6-6 unit rental dwellings (36 total) on 42 current acres, seeking variance on 2-acre lot requirement (72 needed), seeking variance for six buildings on one lot where 6 individual lots are required.
 - RCC discussed environmental impact of 36 units on proposed septic fields and water source. No significant environmental impact determined with application provided.
 - RCC noted conceptual design has no wetlands impact but request review during future planning. Drouin will send letter.

Account Approvals & Updates

Upcoming Events

March 27 – Presentations at Rec Center (6:00 for RCC, 6:30 public)

April 26 - Earth Day Event at Cathedral of the Pines

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES for February 10, 2025

- Minutes edit
 - Lefebvre requested addition Old Business – Trail stewards will be recorded as corps members with separate email tag as corps members.
 - Dickler requested edit under Old Business – remove “from the Master Gardener’s speaker’s bureau”
- Rogers moved to accept the minutes as amended, seconded by Mellor. The commission voted on the motion with Friedman, Mellor, Lefebvre, Rogers in approval, Desruisseaux and Drouin abstained. The motioned passed.

NEXT MEETING: Match 27, 2025

Schedule of 2025 Meetings: April 14 & 24 (26 Earth Day at Cathedral), May 12 & 22, June 9 & 26, July 14 & 24, August 11 & 28, Sept. 8 & 25, Oct. 13 & 23, Nov.10, Dec. 8.

And any other business that comes before the Commission.

Meeting Adjournment:

Lefebvre moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Desruisseaux. The commission voted in favor, with the motion passing unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:19pm

Respectfully submitted, Amanda Nardini