

## Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes December 08, 2021

### Attendees:

**Members:** Jennifer Bland, Gregg Thibodeau, Mark Girard, Jim Jennison      **Not Present:** Beverly Buxton  
**Volunteers:** Scott Travers      **Not Present:** Robin Westcott Ungeheuer, Elizabeth (Liz) Cubberley

**Minutes of November 10, 2021** – *Reviewed and approved.*

### Finance-Budget

#### • Income

- Forest Maintenance Fund:      \$3,904.69      (+\$0.03 interest only)
- Conservation Land Use Fund:      \$3,962.25      (+\$0.04 interest only)
  - *Jim mentioned that the Land Use funds could be utilized for general conservation purchases. Forest Maintenance must be utilized on actual forest work.*

#### • Expense

- Printing of 2 sets of maps. One for posting in the meeting room. One set available for on-site visits. Motion MG/JJ to approve, passed.
- Crescent Lake Annual Monitoring Fees – Total cost to Acworth is \$234.66. Total cost of the monitoring is \$352. Motion JB/JJ to approve, passed.
- *Budget review is in-progress for our 2022 budget. Requested increase is not likely to be approved due to the flood damage costs. Final board review is on 20 December. Gregg will attend that call to answer any questions.*

### Complaints, Concerns & Other Actions

- Keyes Hollow Road Update– No change
  - **Action Required:** Gregg to retrieve north camera images and refresh batteries. Lock issue.
- Cold Pond Road – Sanville possible unapproved crossing/construction on Copeland Brook. Map 210, Lot 37/38. We will review next steps.
  - *Next Steps*
    - *Gregg to walk boundary of the town owned lot 39 to examine the brook passage.*
    - *If signs of crossing, construction or we are unable to view the area in question then Fish and Game will be contacted to walk the brook for signs of violation.*
    - *If needed, we will submit a NH DES Surface Water complaint.*
- Crescent Lake Road – Map 201 Lot 124 – Request to purchase 0.8 acres or at a minimum 0.3 acres from the Town Forest on Gove Road.
  - *We reviewed the conservation value assessment which included a discussion regarding the strategic conservation role that the Gove Road Town Forest plays in our overall conservation plan.*
  - *We determined unanimously that converting any of the Gove Road Town Forest is not consistent with our strategic conservation plan.*
  - *Motion made to not approve the sale of any of the Gove Road Town Forest (MG/JB), passed.*
  - *Gregg will inform the landowner of our decision. Jim to inform Board of Selectmen.*

### Review Intents to Cut – New permits

- Map 241 Lot 1; Acres: 7.5; Acres to be cut: 6; Owner: Fredrick Bifulco; Logger: Megan Henderson: 63.7 MBF; 150 tons of pulpwood.
  - *Jim informed our commission that this intent to cut has been withdrawn by the landowner. It's unknown if they will resubmit. If they do not change anything on the form, then the form is valid for 1 year. If they change the logger, it will require a resubmission.*
- *Map 241 Lots 11, 10.1, 10.2 and 10.3 are also being considered to halt logging. The intent to cut for these were reviewed at previous meetings. Jim will confirm.*

## New Conservation Easement Opportunity

- Kristian Fenderson: – No change; pending Kristian’s discussion with a conservation lawyer. This is likely to end up as a conservation *trust*, requiring no involvement from the town, like the Russell trust in the same vicinity.

## Town Owned Land Recommendations

- List of parcels (4-5) due to Board of Selectmen NLT 1 April 2022.
- Crescent Lake Properties – Map 201 Lots 36, 108, 107
  - *Lot 36 was visited by GT and an assessment completed. The property is buildable and has no significant conservation value.*
    - *Motion to approve map 201 lot 36 for sale (JJ, MG), passed*
  - *Lot 107 & 108 was visited by GT and MG, and an assessment was completed. These parcels have significant conservation.*
    - *Motion made to **not** approve map 201 lots 107 and 108 for sale (JB/MG), passed.*
    - *These properties provide the only open water access for wildlife on the lake. Lot 108 is adjacent to conservation lands in Unity creating a mini-wildlife corridor with access to wetlands on both 107 and 108 and open water on both.*
    - *Our decision was based on these reasons and others, see the assessment for a full report.*
    - *Discussion also included next steps to protect these conservation areas as a wildlife habitat that could be leveraged for education as well. Next Steps in 2022:*
      1. *Survey these two properties. Some of the stakes were missing and there was obvious and apparent intrusions of materials and equipment on both properties.*
      2. *Mark the surveyed properties with conservation markings*
      3. *Conduct a clean-up of the properties working with the abutters*
      4. *Engage the abutters to resolve the violations*
        - *Facebook request made on Crescent Lake webpage.*
        - *Gregg to contact the Crescent Lake Association*
        - *Notice to be sent to the abutters from the board of selectmen*
      5. *Designate the properties as Town Forests*
- Halls Road Properties - Map-Lot 206-1, 206-8, 207-6, 207-14
  - *Map 206 lots 1 and 8 were visited by ST and an assessment was completed. These properties abut Charlestown Town Forest and have a conservation trusted property between them. Both of these properties also have wetlands. The Charlestown Town Forest is also only 2 properties away from Hubbard Hill State Park, which forms a wildlife habitat corridor from Hubbard to our two properties in question.*
    - *Motion made to **not** approve map 206 lots 1 and 8 for sale (MG/JB), passed.*
  - *Map 207 lots 6 and 14 were visited by ST and an assessment was completed. These properties do not have any significant conservation value and have some limited land that could be used to build on.*
    - *Motion made to approve map 207 lots 6 and 14 for sale (JJ/JB), passed*

## 2021 Monitoring

- Completed 4 of the 5 annual assigned monitoring requirements.
  - LCIP - Roy/5 points Properties (Jen/Gregg) – COMPLETE, POSTED, PENDING FINAL LCIP from Beverly; *ETA week of 12/13*
  - LCIP - Bascom/Roy/Moody (Jim) – COMPLETE, POSTED, PENDING FINAL LCIP from Beverly *ETA week of 12/13*
  - SPNHF - Black North/Pan Northern/Pierce Brook (Jen) – SUBMITTED COMPLETE
  - SPNHF – Keyes Hollow/Gove Road (Gregg, Peter) – COMPLETE, SUBMITTED
- Pending – Clark Hillside LCIP from Beverly
  - *Gregg will be meeting with Beverly on Sunday or Monday to get her a hardcopy of the form to be used.*

## Communications & Events

- December article posted on Facebook and in the town newsletter.
- January newsletter and Facebook article pending with the recap of our accomplishments in 2021 and goals for 2022. Due 20 December.

## Other business

- *Question concerning attendance at our 12 January 2022 meeting. It conflicts with another town meeting and Mark will not be local. Gregg to send out a note to confirm attendance so that we can determine if we need to change anything to ensure we have at least 3 members present.*
- *New Member Recommendation - the commission recommended a membership on the commission to Scott Travers based on his background, consistent attendance, and valuable contribution he demonstrated in his work on the Halls Pond evaluation.*
  - *Gregg to notify Kathi and Jim to bring to the Board for their approval.*
  - *Once approved Charlotte will swear in Scott, and we will add his name to our members roll.*
- *The following items were not reviewed and will be added to next meeting agenda*
  - 2021 Annual Report – Gregg to send out a draft between now and Jan 1<sup>st</sup> for the commissions review.
  - Review new Conservation Land Value Assessment form
  - Confirm a Standard Set of Maps

Map Description	Currency & Source	Action Required
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Composite	2020 -	None
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Topographical	1998 – USGS	Consists of 4 USGS maps; need more current and consolidated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wildlife Habitat	2004 – NRI Phase II	Need larger version
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydrology – Water Features	2004 – NRI Phase II	Lacks sufficient details. Need better version
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation Lands (easements, trusts and designated town forests)	Current GRANITView	Need larger version
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vegetation Composition/Land Cover	2004 – NRI Phase II	
<input type="checkbox"/> Soil Composition or Analysis		Need a version
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Co-Occurrence and Rec. Cons. Areas	2004 – NRI Phase II	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unfragmented Lands	2004 – NRI Phase II	
<i>Other- TBD</i>		

**Non-Public Discussion began at 8:25 and ended at 8:30**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.**

**Next Meeting** January 12<sup>th</sup>, 7pm, Town Hall

## Conservation Commission Members:

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