

## Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes June 9, 2021

**Attendance:** Gregg Thibodeau, Mark Girard, Beverly Buxton, Jennifer Bland

**Minutes of May 12, 2021** were approved.

Forest Maintenance Fund: \$3,904.50 (+\$0.03 interest only changes)  
Conservation Land Use Fund: \$3,962.05 (+\$0.04 interest only changes)

### Intents to Cut

- We reviewed 2 new intents to cut and found no issues with either.
  - Map 252 lots 9 & 10, Elenora Rhoades, Rhoades Road; Logger: Peter Rhoades; Intent to cut 10 acres
  - Map 259 lot 4; Gretchen Hurlburt; Rhoades Road; Logger: Peter Rhoades; Intent to cut 10 acres

### Complaints and Concerns

- Map 201 Lot 43 (Crescent Lake) – Removed 7 large hemlock trees; Gregg submitted a complaint with DES week of June 1st.
- Keyes Hollow Road
  - Camera is posted at both ends. **Action:** Gregg to post signs on Lempster side.
  - We talked about next steps with Keyes Hollow and agreed the first step would be an assessment of the ecological impacts on the wetland if A) we do nothing or B) we reestablish the Class IV road back to its original state.
  - We agreed that there are pros and cons to each. The assessment would also need to consider the cost and feasibility of the effort to return the road back to its Class IV original state.
  - We will continue this discussion and plan the actual assessment at our next meeting.
- Map 201 Lot 65 (Crescent Lake); Lafluer-Mcsweeney Trust shoreline dock work wetlands application was DENIED by DES. The family is working on a new DES form that was requested of them by DES. We will be required to review this prior to their submittal to DES.
- Notification – Map 201 Lot 112 (Crescent Lake) has applied for a DES permit to construct a leach field. This will have to be submitted and approved by DES before any work can begin.

### New Conservation Easement Opportunity

- Kristian Fenderson: – No change; pending Kristian’s discussion with a conservation lawyer. Gregg will continue to monitor.

### Town Owned Land Recommendations

- We reviewed 7 town properties.
- We reviewed the following properties that did not have previous recommendations: 9-Murzda, (206-1), 10-Farrell (206-8), 11-Unknown (207-6), 12-Zacharia (207-14).
- We agreed that 13-Patten could either be a for sale property because it has a well and septic or it could be offered to the Society for the Protection of NH Forests (SPNHF) as an additional conservation easement. **Action:** Gregg to follow-up with the SPNHF to determine next steps.
- We also reviewed 2 others: 15-Augustinowicz (210-27), 22-Wunsch (229-17)
  - For the first 4 (9-Murzda, (206-1), 10-Farrell (206-8), 11-Unknown (207-6), 12-Zacharia (207-14)) we agreed that they don’t appear to have a significant conservation value however none of us have walked those properties. We agreed that our next step would be to visit the sites to determine their conservation value and we also need to determine if any or all of these could enable any natural resource corridors in town. Our next meeting will include a “field visit” to these properties. **Action:** Jen to conduct prep work before our site visit to these properties. **Action:** We need to check with Jim to see if he has any information regarding these properties.
  - 15-Augustinowicz – the board of selectmen agree that they would look to sell this property and start with the abutters.
  - 22-Wunsch – the board of selectmen and our commission agree that this should stay with the town and the house be demolished.
- **Solar Consideration:** Gregg responded to the solar inquire based on our agreed recommended response.
- Next steps are to continue reviewing and making recommendations for all the town owned lands.

## 2021 Monitoring

- Property Monitoring:
  - Beverly confirmed that she will conduct the monitoring of the Clark property.
  - It was agreed that we should look to complete all monitoring by the end of November.
- Crescent Lake Monitoring: Gregg attended the DES conducted monitoring on 8 June.

## Conservation Plan

- **Goal:** Develop an Acworth Conservation Plan, using the Natural Resource Inventory (NRI) recommendations as a start.
- **Action:** Committee agreed to the below outline. **Action:** Gregg will create the template and begin identifying the content sources. Subsequent meetings will identify folks to take specific topics to complete.
- **Draft Outline**
  1. Strategy, mission, goals, 3-5-10 year plan
  2. Crescent Lake, Cold River & associated wetlands
  3. Other watersheds
  4. Town Forest & Other Conservation Lands
  5. Wildlife corridors
  6. Easement Monitoring
  7. Permits
  8. Evasive Species (plant, insect, animal)

## Communications & Events

- **Action:** Gregg will repost the “recruiting flyer” in July Newsletter

## Other business

- Green-Up Day Results – 140 bags of trash picked up
- **Action:** Gregg to see about a copy of the town map for each member of the commission.
- Mark brought up the idea of having conservation educational family events during the summer months to engage our town in the conservation of the town’s natural resources.
  - Summer months for families
  - Fun outdoor events in various settings
  - Educate kids and adults on key, hot conservation topics
  - Engage subject matter experts to assist with various topics
  - We agreed that this could be an annual planning event that we put into our Conservation Plan this year for family sessions in the summer of 2022.

**Next Meeting:** July 14<sup>th</sup>, at **6PM ET** to support the site visit of the 4 town properties. We will meet at the town hall.

**Topics:** Continue review of town owned lands; Review of conservation plan template.

## Conservation Commission Members:

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