

Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes March 8, 2023

Member Attendees: Scott Travers, Kathi Brandt, Janet Slocum, Gregg Thibodeau, Robin Ungeheuer

Not Present: Mark Girard, Jennifer Bland, Jennifer Griffin

Other Attendees: None

Motion to approve minutes of February 15, 2022; motion and second – Scott (ST)/Janet (JS); passed.

Organizational

- **Terming members**

- Terms for both Gregg(GT) and Jennifer (JB) are up this year. GT indicated that he would like to continue membership on the commission and continue in the role as co-chair.
- Motion made to recommend GT as co-chair or chair in the case that JB does not continue her membership – ST/Kathi(KB); passed.
- **Action:** GT to forward recommendation to the Select Board.
- **Action:** GT check with JB regarding her membership and term.

- **Funds/Budget**

- Forest Maintenance Fund: \$3,906.07 (+\$.32 interest)
- Conservation Land Use Fund: \$17,450.05 (+\$.43 interest)

- **Conservation Plan**

- JS provided an update on her work on co-occurrences. She indicated that she is now working on enabling the data and map for our conserved lands. We would like to overlay that with the other wildlife overlays to create our revised co-occurrences. One goal would be to produce a data table that would enable prioritization of the co-occurrence areas.
- KB indicated that she was still planning on working on the conservation portion of the town's Master Plan.
- **Action:** JS to continue to work on creating our co-occurrences and adding in the conservation lands overlay.
- **Action:** GT to add the management of our Conservation Plan to our By-laws. (From Feb meeting)
- **Action:** KB to work with and update the Conservation Portion of the town's Master Plan.

Forestry and Conservation

- **Land Protection**

- Intents to Cut
 - Follow-up - 22-001-22; 1/30/23 – Route 123A-Miller; Map 255 lot 2.1; map 256 lot 1; 70 acre lots; 50 acres to cut.
 - Both lots are 100% in a region of highest ranked habitat in NH; Erosion concerns as well
 - General consensus was that this work began a few months ago and past the point of being able to address any concerns.
 - The commission agreed that in the future if we have concerns like this that the commission chairperson should contact the forester and/or landowner to ensure that they are aware of the conservation value of the land.
 - We also agreed that we need to have a handout or some educational information that we can put out to the town to encourage them to think about conservation impacts as they manage their private properties.
- Building, excavation, and other permits - None
- Forestry complaints, concerns & other actions
 - Dodge Hollow Update – Plan created; diagram with measures pending.
 - Crescent Lake Map 201-Lot 106 (Fong) – incursion of recent building materials into the town owned lot 107; RESOLVED.
- Forester actions and plans – Jeff is working on an estimate for the creation of the plan.
 - Create schedule & a list requirements (GT, MG)
- Surveyor action and plans

- Surveys in-progress for Crescent Lake town owned properties (map 201, lots 107 & 108) Due Jan 2023; Note sent to Eric 2/8; v-mail message left on 3/6.
 - Tree Warden actions and plans – None
 - Easement Monitoring – Confirm 2023 assignments at our April meeting.
 - Town Owned Land Management
 - Update Map 250 lot 2 (Prouty) – **Action:** GT, Charlotte (CC) to work with state to finalize actions required.
- **Water Protection** (Crescent Lake, Cold River, watersheds, wetlands, ponds, and perennial streams)
 - Permits – None
 - Lake Sunapee Protective Association (LSPA) – Cyanobacteria Presentation Notes (3/1)
 - GT attended the event and reviewed the content. Many of the actions were similar to the actions that were presented at the LSPA “Let’s Be Clear” campaign overview. **Action:** GT agreed to add those actions into the hydrology portion of our conservation plan.

Communications, Training and Outreach,

- **Training-Education**
 - **2023 Saving Special Places** – Virtual Only or Virtual & In-Person Registration
 - March 30 & April 7 – Virtual; April 15 – In-Person
 - <https://extension.unh.edu/savingspecialplaces>
- **Community Outreach**
 - Volunteer Field Events – Crescent Lake Boundary Marking and Cleanup. Keyes Hollow Nature Trail
 - Educational events – Climate Change Impacts
 - Commission Member Education Opportunity – Endangered and invasive species review
 - Janet Slocum Apr 4 bumble bees and bittersweet
 - Mark Girard May New England Cottontail
- **Next Meeting** – 12 April 2023

Conservation Commission Members:

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- Gregg Thibodeau, Gregg@thibodeaufamily.com 860-338-3227
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