

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Boscawen Municipal Complex

Meeting Minutes
December 17, 2019 @ 7:00 pm

Present: Thomas Gilmore, Chair, Jeffrey Abbe, Lyman Cousens, Mark Kaplan via phone, Norman LaPierre, Lorrie Carey, Henry Carrier.

Absent: Brendon Jackson

Staff Present: Kellee Jo Easler, Planning & Community Development Director

Regular Business:

- Open by Chair
- Roll call
- Review and Acceptance of the minutes of prior meeting minutes – Line 37 Carey reports that her name was miss spelled. It should read “Jeff, Lorrie and Mark”. A **motion** to accept the minutes as amended was made by LaPierre, seconded by Carrier and passed by a unanimous vote.
- Accountant’s Report – Not much has changed. The balance sheet shows the Town Forest Fund at \$31,000. The Conservation Commission fund shows a balance of \$197,000.

Cousens asked Easler what’s involved in getting the money that is due transferred from the general fund. Easler reported that Katie Phelps takes care of that at the end of the year. Gilmore stated that it gets credited to them. Cousens asked if it comes out of the Trustees of the Trust funds. Easler reported that they would have to get approval from the Trustees before transferring the money but she believes Phelps takes care of that at the end of the year. A **motion** to approve financials was made by Cousens, seconded by Abbe with no action taken.

Old Business:

- Natural Resource Update – Abbe and Kaplan reported. Abbe explained that the Survey went public on Tuesday. Gilmore has not sent it out to others yet. Abbe asked Easler to encourage everyone in the building to take the Survey. He thinks it is very readable. He’s getting good response from the Historical Society. He believes it is on the right track. There is something from Dee Blake of the NewsVine. Abbe asked if Cousens would be willing to write an article to update Dee Blake periodical. Cousens agreed. He questioned what he should report on. Abbe said maybe something about the NRI coming up on the 15th. Abbe suggested that every other month they should do an article for the NewsVine. It would help with public outreach. Cousens asked where the survey been distributed? Easler said it has been distributed to all the departments asking for them to distribute it to 5 people. It was also sent to the Elementary School and asked to be sent home to the parents. It is on Facebook and on the website. Abbe reported that Craig is coming up with some incredible maps. Un-fragmented land maps that go into neighboring towns. Gilmore is looking forward to see what comes back from the survey. Gilmore thought once they have the results they could put something together for the NewsVine. Kaplan will get in touch with Craig to see what information he has compiling in the survey. Kaplan asked if they should share amongst the Commission, in an email, their findings so far. Cousens noted that by the next meeting the survey should be done and they should be able to put numbers in the NewsVine. Gilmore noted that those results, because of the way the meeting dates fall into place, will not go into the NewsVine until February. Abbe will follow through with other commissions.

- Discussion Items Town Forest – Charlie Niebling (*insert*) – Gilmore discussed that they want to ask Niebling to do a presentation on what is happening on with the Creaser property. It would be nice to get that into the NewsVine. That would be for the Warrant for the town meeting. Gilmore stated that they need to vote and ask Niebling to do that for them and they should cover his expenses. A **motion** to ask Niebling to put together a Warrant for the town meeting and provide funds to pay for his time was made by Carrier, seconded by Abbe and passed by a unanimous vote. Easler said Niebling he would help prepare for town meeting. Gilmore will email Niebling. Carey thought it would be nice to have some information for the budget hearing as well. January 23rd will be one of the meetings. Gilmore noted that there is no immediate impact on the Creaser item. It will not cost the town money.

Abbe had a conversation with Oscar the Eagle Scout. He reminded him that this was his project. He's slow moving and his scout troop is encouraging him. He needs to have it done by May 17th. Abbe gave him some verbiage for a sign, etc. Cousens asked if they recorded that they gave him \$200.00. Abbe said he hasn't requested it yet. Gilmore said he has not issued a check to him. Abbe asked if they submitted it to Phelps. Easler said yes. Gilmore said that was in past Minutes. It was mentioned in the Addendum.

New Business:

- Permits & Reviews – NHTOA sent them some information as well as a booklet. Gilmore has the booklet if anyone would like to see it. They have no other permits.

They received a review of conservation properties from Five Rivers. Gilmore and Jackson walked the Emery property. Gilmore filled out the report and sent it into Amanda Hollinbeck. They were going to do the Salem/Gilmore property but because of the impending snow storm Gilmore went ahead and did the walk on his own and filled out the report. This report has also been submitted.

Kaplan had questions regarding the reports done on the walk. Gilmore answered. Abbe noticed the Morrill property was reported on in the paper because they received the LChip money.

Abbe asked if Web Stout was contacted regarding the Creaser property. Easler sent an email to Web Stout on 12/10.19. He is very busy but he will get to it sometime this winter. She will send out an email when she has more information. Carey reported that a surveyor has moved into town that they may want to work with as an alternate.

A motion to adjourn was made by Cousens, seconded by Carey, no action taken.

Next Meeting:

- January 21, 2020

Rose Fife, Recording Secretary