

Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes October 09, 2024

Present: Mark Girard, Gregg Thibodeau, Ryanne Schoonover (Select Board Representative) Rob Traver, Jennifer Bland

Absent: Janet Slocum, Robin Ungeheuer

Public Attendance: Ms. Lindley Hanson

Meeting called to order at 1900

Review/approve minutes of 14, 2024 - minutes were approved. RS made a motion, and ST seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

Public Topics –

Lindley offered her services to work on any areas of our conservation plan that we wanted, example discussed was hydrology. GT suggested that at our next meeting we discuss the geology write-up that Lindley provided and how we can incorporate that into the plan.

Organizational

• Funds/Budget

- Forest Maintenance Fund \$3,912.27 (+ \$0.34interest)
- Conservation Land Use Fund \$21,173.18 (+1.85 interest)
- Pending \$200 refund from Orchard Hill School; also pending printing expenses for the conservation plan presentation.

- **Annual By Laws** – RT created a consolidated list of the substantive recommendations. The committee reviewed one section of it. At our next meeting we will review the rest of the recommendations.

Forestry and Conservation

• Land Protection

- Intents to Cut - none
- Permits/complaints – none
- South Acworth Forest (map 249, lot 9) – RT and MG completed their review. GT has their comments. GT to complete his review this weekend and update our forester on Monday
- Land Surveys - Crescent Lake (map 201, lots 107 and 108) – Vendor contacted, pending 10/24 review pending.
- Easement Monitoring -Pan-Northern Pierce Brook SPNHF Will meet when we complete the monitoring, GT will join.

• **Water Protection** (Crescent Lake, Cold River, watersheds, wetlands, ponds, and perennial streams)

- Keyes Hollow HVA actions – RT identified Goffstown that completed a prime wetland assessment which has some relevant components but not the same as a wetland assessment RT will continue to reach out to the other towns that have prime wetlands to see if they have completed a wetland assessment. GT
- Crane Brook Rd – This issue has been worked on and the E. coli levels have dropped significantly.
- Crescent Lake Water Quality update – (Gregg) Stone Environmental will conduct a watershed assessment of Crescent Lake, and it was funded from donations from people who live on the lake. This week Stone conducted a shoreland assessment field exercise. In July of 2025 they will present recommendations.
- Turbidity practical exercise – MG explained the process of the turbidity meter and how it tests the water. The members' brought water into test.

Communications, Training and Outreach

• Community Outreach

- Newsletter – Next topics and next writer(s); draft due the 20th of the prior month.

- Janet Slocum Dec 2024
 - Lisa Hyatt April 2025
 - Mark Girard April 2025
 - Rob Travers Aug 2025
 - Gregg Thibodeau Aug 2025
 - It was discussed that two people might not need to do this -
 - Suggestions for the next newsletter included – Animal footprints and scat, feeding the birds, GT will speak with JS about this and doing the next issue alone
 - Topics to consider for future letters: a seasonal relevant topic and possibly one of these other topics iNaturalist; library corner
 - Other possible educational topics: Climate change impacts; shoreland and wetland restrictions/limitations/requirements, property conservation options,
 - Conservation Plan Review
 - Scheduled for October 12th at 1300 and will be a 40 min session. The purpose of this is to make people aware of the conservation plan. GT has printed 25 copies
 - Presentation, questionnaire, logistics/administration, set up, etc. JB to make copies of these for the Sat presentation.
 - Members reviewed the slides for the presentation on 12th, some changes were made, we went over the High priority areas that we identified in the town, and that the Conservation Plan is a DRAFT and subject to revisions as we identify additional areas in the future. Also need to add Kathi name to the Conservation plan.
 - JB will also make a sign-in sheet for the presentation on Sat.
 - Volunteer Field Events – Crescent Lake Boundary Marking and Clean up. Keyes Hollow Nature Trail.
- **Next Meeting** – 13 November at 7pm in the Town Hall.

Meeting adjourned at 2022 pm.

Conservation Commission Members:

- Jennifer Bland (co-chair)
- Gregg Thibodeau (co-chair)
- Ryanne Schoonover, (Select Board rep.)
- Mark Girard
- Janet Slocum
- Rob Traver
- Robin Ungeheuer (alt)
- Lisa Hyatt

Contact information:

- Webpage <https://www.acworthnh.net/conservation-commission>
- E-mail acworthconservation@gmail.com
- Meeting 7:00 p.m. every 2nd Wednesday of month at the Town Hall
- Mail 13 Town Hall Rd., P.O. Box 37, Acworth, NH 03601, Attention: Conservation Commission
- Phone 603-835-6879 (town office)