



**CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING**

Thursday, November 19, 2015 6:00 PM
City Hall, Council Chambers, Claremont, NH

**MINUTES
Approved 12/17/2015**

Mrs. Harlow called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

I. Roll Call

Present: Dianne Harlow, Gary Dickerman, Scott Magnuson, Kimberly Gogan

Absent: Nicholas Koloski, Cortney Nichols

II. Review of Minutes of Preceding Meeting(s)

a. October 16, 2015

Corrections: Under “Old Business, item “b” – Mr. Dickerman said that Mr. Wood was also present at the meeting with Ms. Wells.

Motion: To accept the minutes of the October 16th meeting as amended.

Made by: Mr. Wood **Second:** Mr. Magnuson **Vote:** Unanimous in favor

III. Finance Report

There was no Financial Report.

IV. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Mrs. Harlow announced that Time Out Americana Grill will be serving a free Thanksgiving dinner at noon for all in need. The Sullivan County ATV Club will be serving.

Mr. Wood handed out some brochures he had discovered about protecting NH firewood from the Emerald Ash Borer. More information can be found at www.nhbugs.org.

V. Old Business

a. Invasive Species in Moody Park

Mr. Wood said that all of the bittersweet berries are now gone from the large growth at the edge of the lawn at the top of the hill. He said he discovered three stems of Black Cherry beneath the tangle of vines. Some of them should recover in the spring, now that they will have access to sunlight. He said he did not yank out the vines – that that was best saved for a group work day sometime in late summer.

The Commission discussed creating a game plan and timeline for coping with invasive species in the Park for the future. All agreed that such an effort should be

coordinated with the Director of Parks and Rec, Mark Brislin, and Lionel Shute. They will be invited to attend the December or January meeting.

b. Status of Judy Wells' issue

There are no new developments with this issue. All are waiting for the contractor's response.

Mr. Wood said that Wayne McCutcheon was able to locate and flag the corner of Ms. Wells' lot that appeared to be in the trail right-of-way. According to Mr. McCutcheon's findings, it is not. The retaining wall is fully on Ms. Wells' property as well.

c. Rail Trail R.O.W. survey/monumentation

Mr. Wood said that Mr. McCutcheon had found an 1870 map of the railroad right-of-way in the Morton Archives in Concord. Mr. McCutcheon has a copy of the map and is willing to loan it to the Commission for making a copy. This map contains more details than the 1914 map that the City has. Mr. Wood will follow up with this.

d. Conservation Plan

Mr. Dickerman and Mrs. Harlow shared their experiences at the NHACC annual meeting and workshops. While they did not get some of the information they had hoped to get, they agreed that the meeting was well worth attending and urged the other Commissioners to consider attending next year.

Mr. Dickerman learned that the first step in creating a conservation plan is to look at the recommendations contained in the natural resources inventory. The next step is to prioritize those recommendations. The Conservation Commission Manual contains additional guidance as well. Mrs. Harlow asked everyone to read the recommendations in the inventory and come to the next meeting ready to discuss priorities.

VI. New Business

a. Barry Conservation Camp

Mrs. Harlow and deForest have updated some of the forms for the Barry Conservation Camp. At the suggestion of Ms. Gogan, the Commission agreed to send the forms to Dr. McGoodwin so he can email them to the parents (rather than print them out and distribute them to the students). The camp sessions and dates will be updated when registration for the camps opens in January 2016 and then sent to Dr. McGoodwin via Mrs. Harlow.

b. Friends of Moody Park – Gary

The Commission discussed forming a "Friends of Moody Park" group to take on the various conservation projects in the Park. Various ideas were offered. No action was taken.

c. Invite High School Representative to Commission

The Commission discussed getting students involved in the Commission and in conservation in the City. Various ideas were put forward. No action was taken.

VII. **Communications**

Received by the Commission were:

- Wetlands and Non-Site Specific Permit for Mikros Manufacturing on Colonel Ashley Lane
- Complete Forestry Notifications for the City of Claremont and Christina/Harvey Hill
- *Town and City Magazine*

VIII. **Other Business**

There was no other business to discuss.

IX. **Adjournment**

Motion: To adjourn the meeting.

Made by: Mr. Dickerman **Second:** Mr. Magnuson

Vote: Unanimous in favor

The meeting adjourned at 7:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

deForest Bearse

Resource Coordinator