



**CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING**

Thursday, November 9, 2017 6:00 PM
City Hall, Council Chambers, Claremont, NH

**MINUTES
Approved 1/18/2018**

Mr. Dickerman called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and asked for a roll call.

- I. **Roll Call**
Present: Gary Dickerman, Steve Wood, Scott Magnuson, Kim Gogan
Absent: Eileen Skowronski, Nick Koloski

- II. **Review of Minutes of Preceding Meeting(s)**
 - a. **October 10, 2017 (Special Meeting)**
Motion: To approve the minutes as written
Made by: Mr. Magnuson **Second:** Mr. Wood
Vote: Unanimous in favor

 - b. **October 19, 2017**
Correction: Spelling of “Moody” at top of page 3
Motion: To accept the minutes a corrected
Made by: Mr. Wood **Second:** Mr. Magnuson
Vote: Unanimous in favor

- III. **Finance Report –**
The Commission reviewed the latest financial report. Everything appeared to be in order.

- IV. **Public Comment**
There was no public comment.

- V. **Old Business**
 - a. **Pollinator Garden Signage Ideas**
It is still the plan to put up two signs at the pollinator garden on Broad and Chestnut. – one that identifies it as a pollinator garden and explains what that is; the other to attribute the project to the Conservation Commission. Ms. Skowronski will take charge of the pollinator garden sign and the remaining Commissioners will work out what the wording should be for the other.
 - b. **Stevens Brook**
 - i. **Prohibited Activities Sign – posting update**
Five more signs have been put up. There probably won't be any more put up until next spring.

ii. **Trail Layout – quote from SCA**

The Commission reviewed the proposal for a trail layout project. It is quite expensive, but has the potential to be an extraordinary project. It was agreed to invite Randy and Will to the next Commission meeting to further explore the proposal.

iii. **Water Quality Monitoring Program**

Ms. Gogan has broached the subject with the high school biology/environmental science teacher who is already monitoring the Sugar River. The teacher has agreed to take on the Stevens Brook as well. Details will be worked out.

iv. **Access/Parking Easement**

Mr. Wood explored an alternate route from the 30-ft wide right-of-way across City land from North Street. The positive side is that the trail already exists (it is more like a road). The negative is that additional easement from the landowner will be required to actually connect with the easement after leaving the City property.

Mr. Dickerman will pursue making contact with the landowner to inquire about an access via the 50 feet of frontage on North Street.

c. **Rail Trail**

i. **Survey**

There is no grant money available to use for a survey of the trail near Maurice's and Reeds Trucking. Because the cost of the survey is so high and because the trail is still useable through this stretch, the Commission will not be pursuing a survey.

ii. **Master Plan – Next steps**

There has not been any progress on the Master Plan as yet.

iii. **Hazard Tree Removal**

All of the identified hazard trees have been removed and Mr. Stevens has been paid.

VI. **New Business**

a. **Maple Avenue School access to Moody Park**

Access was discussed. Although it seems a daunting proposal, Ms. Gogan urged the Commission to continue looking for possibilities because easy access to the Park from the school is very important to the type of curriculum being taught at the school.

VII. **Communications**

VIII. **Other Business**

IX. **Future Agenda Items**

X. **Adjournment**

Motion: To adjourn the meeting

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

Vote: Unanimous in favor

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

de Forest Bearse