

Claremont Conservation Commission Meeting

Minutes of June 20, 2013

Meeting Called to Order at 6:02 p.m.

- I. Roll Call: Steve Wood, Gary Dickerman, Ken Harlow, Nick Koloski, Dianne Harlow
Absent: Cortney Nichols
Guest: Scott Hausler, Dennis McKinney, Bill Cavaney, Patrick O'Grady, Jim Feleen
- II. Review of Minutes
 - Review of May 16, 2013 Minutes Motion to accept by: Ken Harlow 2nd by: Gary Dickerman Abstain: Nick Koloski
Comment: Larry Converse was the Larry that was noted in the minutes. Feedback on item #7: – Adam Ricker indicated to us that Federal funds could be available for erosion near the pump station on Sugar River Drive
- III. Finance Report – checking account Balance \$ 20,623.65
- IV. Old Business – No Old Business to attend to
- V. New Business
 - Forestry Management Plan Chapters for Wheelabrator and Syd Clarke Park
 - a. Update: several timber sales have been completed: Pine lot on Veteran's Park road, Cat Hole, Red Pine stand in Moody Park with an ongoing sale from Whitewater area. Wheelabrator/Industrial lot will have a lumber sale soon as will the 2nd sale from Moody park that will open the vista to Mt. Ascutney and down to the sandpit.
 - b. Fitch Reservoir area and Arrowhead from Ridge Ave side
 - c. Comments on Moody - there is slash on the ground, but trails are open for access
 - d. Dennis walked the logged area in Moody with Scott Hausler, Parks and Recreation Director to explain what and why they cut
 - e. Can do a site walk with Conservation Commission members in the future if desired
 - Rail Trail – Scott Hausler
Would like to pave the Rail Trail aprons at Broad St. and Chestnut St. entrances on both sides of the street; with curb cuts 20 – 25' from road into trail. This will help keep the rocks out of the road from spin outs. In order to enhance the Bobby Woodman trail, in the future, would also like to pave from Pleasant St. to Chestnut St. for a better trail surface for bikes, roller blades, scooters, strollers, walkers etc.

Future Plans for the Rail Trail: Scott Hausler recommends that we produce a mini master plan for the Rail Trail, for the section within the City limits. The Parks and Recreation budget will pay for the paving. The already planned gates at the Broad St. and Chestnut St. entrances need to be installed in concurrence with the paving of the parking lot by American Plate Glass (Pleasant St.) which will be paved and striped for better parking.

Gary Dickerman and Dianne Harlow asked if they should be recused from vote as they are part-time employees of the Community Center. Chairman Wood and Mr. Hausler felt that because they weren't part of the Parks and Recreation Committee, that it was allowable.

Motion by Nick Koloski to grant permission for the Parks and Recreation Department to pave only the aprons at the Broad St., Chestnut St. and Pleasant St. entrances on the Rail Trail. Seconded by: Dianne Harlow Motion passes.

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VI. Communications

- NH Coverts Project Workshop – Fall training workshop scheduled for September 18 – 21, 2013
- UNH Coop Extension – Field Trip 101

VII. Other:

- Mini Master plan for rail trail – Conservation Commission to advertise a meeting to get input from all users of the trail that are interested. This might include a walk along the trail for interested parties. Scott Hausler, Parks and Recreation will look into getting someone to help us coordinate a meeting. Members of the Conservation Commission agreed that it should be a neutral third party that mediates the meetings. Suggestions: Upper Valley Trails Alliance or Upper Valley Regional Planning Commission. Should we do a summer or fall meeting? Parks and Rec meets the 2nd Monday of month.
- Flowers from planning office were planted near the Police Station entrance opposite the Humane Society in the brick planters. Thank you to the Planning Office Staff for helping to beautify the Opera House block.
- Hazard trees on Rail Trail near Chestnut St. are still standing but need to be taken care of before someone gets hurt - Roger Wright needs to be contacted to see when he plans to take care of these.

VIII. Future Agenda Items:

- The landscaping plan at the end of the rail trail on the Broad St. end needs to be revisited. Dianne to check with Denise Egbert about plants for this area
- There is no “set” Green Up Day in Claremont; Nick Koloski would like the Conservation Commission to see if they can do something about this; maybe incorporating the Student Conservation Association, High School students, Boy and Girl Scouts and different organizations to help
- Speed limit on Cat Hole Road needs to be increased
- End of Bond Street that abuts the Rail Trail needs to be looked at for erosion control.

IX. Adjournment:

Motion to Adjourn by: Gary Dickerman Secoded by: Ken Harlow

Motion Passes

Meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m