



**CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING**

Thursday, August 18, 2016 6:00 PM
City Hall, Council Chambers, Claremont, NH

**MINUTES
Approved 9/15/16**

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

- II. **Review of Minutes of Preceding Meeting(s)**
 - a. **July 21, 2016**
Corrections: Change location of meeting to CSB Community Center; change “tabbed” to “tabled” on pg. 2; change “rolls” to “roles” on pg.3
Motion: To accept the minutes of July 21st as amended
Made by: Ms. Gogan **Second:** Ms. Skowronski
Vote: Unanimous in favor

- III. **Finance Report**
There was no financial report.

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

- V. **Old Business**
 - a. **Pollinator Garden Discussion – Mark Brislin**
Mr. Brislin was not present at the meeting.

The Commission continued the discussion of the idea of a pollinator garden at either Moody Park or the Visitor Center. It was agreed that the first tasks should be getting the go ahead from Mr. Brislin and obtaining an estimate of the cost to create such a garden at either location. Mr. Dickerman volunteered to speak to Mr. Brislin to get some guidance on how to proceed.

 - b. **Friends of Moody Park**
Since Mr. Brislin was not present at the meeting, the discussion of this topic was tabled to the next meeting.

 - c. **Rail Trail Monumentation – next phase**
The Commission has succeeded in locating several of the boundary monuments that are indicated on the map, but more need to be found to define the full length of the

right-of-way. Being able to clearly and accurately define the right-of-way as it lays on the ground is a key component of the long-range plan for the trail and is critical in determining cases of encroachment. The Commission agreed to view the portion of the trail from the bridge over the Sugar River back to the trailhead at Pleasant Street in two trips – the first from the bridge to Chestnut Street; the second from Chestnut Street to the trailhead. The goal will be to locate on the ground as many monuments (that are shown on the map) as possible; mark on the map the ones that are found and mark on the map those that may be missing. The first excursion was scheduled for Tuesday, August 30th at 5:00PM. Commissioners are to meet at the bridge.

VI. New Business

a. Communication Plan Discussion

An important part of the Conservation Plan is to educate the public about the Commission, what the Commission does, and to provide information on projects happening in the City. Commissioners will pursue the use of CCTV, the City's website, and Face book to publicize information on the four upcoming logging projects.

VII. Communications

a. Sidewalk and Rail Trail Improvements Project

Commissioners received information regarding sidewalk improvements on East Street and trail improvements between Pleasant and Chestnut Streets. The project is being funded by an NHDOT Transportation Alternatives Program grant.

Ms. Gogan said she wished the funding were being spent to provide such amenities in the areas of the City where they don't currently exist, e.g. along Main Street in the neighborhood of the Tractor Supply store. The Commission agreed to look further into the TAP program for future project funding.

VIII. Other Business

- a. Reminder: Master Plan Update – Natural Resources Chapter Subcommittee Meeting August 29, 2016 at 6:15 PM at the CSB Community Center
- b. The Commission is aware that garden and grounds refuse is being dumped near the rail trail behind the Marion Phillips Apartment complex. The piles of materials are beginning to block a drainage culvert that runs under the trail, which could have serious consequences to the trail in a heavy rain event. It was agreed to follow up on this.

IX. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting.

Made by: Ms. Skowronski **Second:** Mr. Wood

Vote: Unanimous in favor

The meeting adjourned at 7:19 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

de Forest Bearse