



**CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MEETING**

Thursday, August 20, 2015 6:00 PM  
City Hall, Council Chambers, Claremont, NH

**MINUTES  
Approved 9/17/2015**

Mrs. Harlow called the meeting order at 6:07 PM.

**I. Roll Call**

**Present:** Dianne Harlow, Stephen Wood, Gary Dickerman, Nicholas Koloski

**Absent:** Kim Gogan, Scott Magnuson, Cortney Nichols

**II. Review of Minutes of Preceding Meeting(s)**

a. July 16, 2015

Correction/Additions/Deletions: Change spelling of name “Wendy Wand” to “Wendy Ward” and “Matt Todd” to “Matt Tarr”.

**Motion:** To accept the minutes as amended.

**Made by:** Mr. Dickerman    **Second:** Mr. Wood    **Vote:** Dickerman, Harlow and Wood voted aye; Koloski abstained. Motion carries.

**III. Finance Report**

There was no finance report as no activity has taken place since the last report.

**IV. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**V. Old Business**

a. **Moody Park trails update (Mark Brislin)**

Mr. Brislin updated the Commission on Phase 1 of the Moody Park trails project completed by Sinuosity. The project began in mid-May and completed in mid-July. He said overall they are very pleased with the project. Completed were:

- the Pine Entrance Trail (ADA accessible);
- the Indian Trail – goes from the bottom of Moody Park up to the top (with new bridges and drainage);
- Indian Trail West from the top of the park – it bypasses the perimeter of Moody Park and goes back down to the bottom – they added some drainage and re-routed it in some areas to avoid wet spots;
- Stump-jumper trail – a ½-mile downhill trail mostly for mountain bikers; a One-way trail only; they working on signage

- Gravity Cavity – previously unsustainable due to erosion; 160 feet of concrete pavers were added to hold the bank in place and the bridge has been repaired; repairs made in response to public input. The stream banks were also stabilized against future erosion.

Mr. Brislin said there seems to be a lot pride in the Park once again after the negative time following the timber harvest. He said they are now working on a new trail map and signage. They have a grant from Claremont Savings Bank to assist. They hope to have this next step completed by this fall. Mr. Dickerman echoed the compliments on the completed work and on Sinuosity. Mr. Brislin said the work was funded by the timber harvest and a grant from the Q2C Foundation.

Mr. Brislin said there is a Phase 2 that will create more trails within the park. Funding has not yet been identified.

**b. Invasive plant tour status (Steve Wood)**

The tour will be scheduled for Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 PM until dark. The tour will be lead by Wendy Ward, Matt Tarr, and Lionel Chute. The intent of the tour is to focus on the invasive species aspect of forestry and landscape management.

**c. Status of Judy Wells' issue (Dianne Harlow)**

City Solicitor Jane Taylor feels that the Conservation Commission should meet with her to discuss next steps in this process. Mrs. Harlow will arrange for the meeting.

**d. Survey of Rail Trail R.O.W. for Trail Master Plan**

It was unclear what this project should entail – whether surveying of the trail right-of-way or monumentation of an existing survey to show the path on the ground. It was agreed that a strategy needs to be developed to implement this project. Funding for the project is unclear. It was agreed to keep this item on the agenda.

**e. Conservation Plan**

Mr. Dickerman has had communication with Nik Coates and Emily Lord of the NH Association of Conservation Commissions, both of whom have been very helpful. Mr. Dickerman had received links to existing plans that he forwarded to the Commission. He said a separate committee may be needed to do the work. He suggested discussing it further when the full board is present.

**VI. New Business**

**a. Conservation Camp Attendees (added to the agenda by Mr. Wood)**

Mr. Wood asked that this year's camp attendees be invited to make their presentations to the Commission. Mrs. Harlow will organize it.

**b. Call from Jim Sullivan**

Mr. Wood said he had received a call from Jim Sullivan asking Mr. Wood if he knew about a post on the eTicker Facebook page Arrowhead Recreation Area was looking for someone with an excavator to dig out a water retention pond close to the parking area. Mrs. Harlow said she thought this project had been in the works for quite some time. Mr. Sullivan questioned whether the proper permits had been obtained. Mrs. Harlow said she would call DES to inquire.

VII. **Communications**

- a. Alteration of Terrain Permit Application (Mikros Manufacturing)

This is a request for more information from the applicant. No action was required.

VIII. **Other Business**

IX. **Adjournment**

**Motion:** To adjourn the meeting

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

**Respectfully submitted,**

*deForest Bearse*

Resource Coordinator