



**TOWN OF
BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

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**Minutes
Tuesday, March 12, 2024
Conservation Commission**

**Present: Francis (Buddy) Dougherty, Chairman, (Voting)
Jay Chrystal, Vice Chairman(Voting)
Jerry Jaworski, Member (Voting)
Drew Kellner, Member (Voting)
Greg Martin, Alternate, Alternate
Sean McNair, Alternate**

Absent: Roy Wallen, Alternate, Brendan Denehy, Selectboard Representative and Brain Rater, Alternate Selectboard Representative.

Buddy read the Hybrid rules:

- Any meeting attendees participating via Zoom are asked to activate the “mute” function until called upon by the chair.
- Meeting attendees via Zoom must use the “raise hand” function under the “reactions” tab to participate in the meeting – and will be permitted to comment once and if called upon by the chair.
- Anyone providing comments during the meeting must first identify their name and address.
- The “chat” function for Zoom participants will be disabled by the meeting administrator or otherwise not addressed; “chat” items will not be part of the public meeting/record.
- Meeting attendees via Zoom will not be listed as attendees in the minutes (except Board members)
- The meeting’s physical location is the official meeting room. Should technical difficulties arise with the remote portion, the meeting will continue at the physical location.

Mail

Drew said there is an insurance binder for the Ghost Train event in the mail folder that just needs to be filed away.

Trails Discussion

The Board discussed erosion on some of the trails due to the rain events we have had. **Buddy** said there is grant money through Grant and aid which needs to be applied for through the snowmobile club that is due in April, but the money would not come in until July and he would like to get started on some of the improvements well before then. **Jerry** said there was erosion in the cider mill trail area Sergeant trail area and the lower part of upper Bartel. **Drew** said if the snowmobile club is willing to apply for the grant, he would let them do it. Greg said the last time he was at the Mary's trail there was some erosion, but it can be fixed with the material that is on site. **Drew**

asked if they could hire someone if they receive money from the grant and aid fund. **Buddy** said he believes so and suggested they contact Amos White to go out and come up with a price for trail maintenance.

Buddy said the culvert the runs under the railroad bed behind 280 Route 13 needs to be cleaned out also. He will speak to Amos White to see if they can get out there while the water is still high.

Conclusion of Site Walk behind Petersen Road

Drew said to wrap up discussion about the Site walk behind Peterson Road. Kevin Gorgoglione Has requested a letter with the conclusion of the Site walk and what was discussed adding that he is allowed to do continued maintenance. He has drafted letter to be sent to Kevin and Cindy Gorgoglione stating the following:

“The Conservation Commission scheduled a site walk On November 18, 2023, at 1:00pm to discuss the encroachment situation. The Board has agreed that the continued maintenance of clearing material across trails is permitted while the Board continues to formally adopt the trail. The Board reached a consensus to adopt that trail. There are several steps in that process. We are currently contacting other landowners along the existing trail and separately discussing names. We have also discussed permitted uses along different portions, potential gates, and a desire to have NRPC do more accurate mapping. Should you have any questions please feel free to contact the Conservation Commission with any questions.”

Drew made a motion to approve the letter and have Kristen sign it for the Board before mailing. Jay seconded. Vote yes 4-0.

Warrant Article Land Purchase

Jay said as a reminder that Wednesday night at the town meeting Warrant article 3 the bond request for the purchase of lot A-2 and B-72 in the north end of Brookline and the polls should be open for an hour. This should start at about 7:30 pm.

Comments for the Planning Board: Case review

Case SP#2024-1:H-90, 89 Route 13, Belletetes, Corrections to original plan.

Trevor Yandow with Meridian Land Services presented the Changes made to the plan since the first presentation. This includes an increase in impervious surface of about ½ an acre, along with the newest stormwater infiltration area, and the reduction in the size of the proposed building with the Board. After reviewing all the changes, the Board had no further comments for the Planning Board.

Case SP#2024-4: J-19, 46 Route 13, addition to existing building at 46 Route 13 and signage.

The Board reviewed case SP#2024-4: J-19,46 Route 13. The purpose of this plan is to amend reference plan number 6 and depict the existing site conditions in support of a change of use site plan application for an existing storage building on site to be changed to an automotive service and repair use. **Drew** said without the benefit of a staff report with more information it is unclear what they're commenting on. There is an application for a larger sign to be added to the building. The Board had no issues with the proposed sign. **Jay** said in reference to note 19 on the plan which states :any petroleum products or deicing chemicals should be stored in a structure or on a

paved surface.” **Jay** said he it should state “chemicals will be stored either in a covered structure or on a covered paved surface.” The board agreed. They are also requesting a staff report to be sent along with all future plans.

Case SD#2024-1: F-72 & F-73-1, Lot Line Revision, 23 & 21 Milford Street.

This is a lot line revision Lot F-72 and Lot F-73-1, 21 and 23 Milford St. Lot F-72 will lose parcel C.946 acres and gain parcel a .82 acres and parcel B .320 acres. Lot F-73-1 will lose parcel A&B and gain parcel C 1.756 acres.

Jay said this looks like they are just looking to straighten up the lot line. The Board agreed that there is no impact to natural resources, and they had no issues with this plan.

Hunting Stand Policy (Drew)

Drew he added information about ground blinds:

“Tree stands must comply with all necessary laws. In addition to RSA 207:36-a, regarding the use of tree stands, the Brookline Conservation Commission has voted to allow temporary stands to remain up year-round provided the following conditions are met.

- Tree stands shall be maintained by the owner to prevent damage to trees.
- The owner of the tree stand shall possess a current valid NH hunting license or have had one within the prior calendar year.
- All tree stands shall be labeled with the owner’s name and contact information (either name & address, or name & phone number).

Observation blinds may be used during the legal windows of April 25 – June 1 and August 1 – December 31; outside of these time periods they must be removed. Observation blinds should be placed at least 15’ from a designated town trail and must be maintained.

Note: The Brookline Conservation Commission has the right, in their discretion, to have tree stands if it is determined that any of the above stipulations (or full text of the law) are not being followed. Additionally, the Conservation Commission reserves the right to ask that observation blinds be moved if, in their discretion, they feel the placement negatively impacts other property users.

The Board agreed the contact information should be located on the ground blinds.

Drew made a motion to approve the tree stand and observation blind policy as discussed tonight 3/12/2024. Jay seconded. Vote yes 4-0.

General Business

The Board agreed they have to pay the Hollis tax bill for the lot they bought from the Fessenden’s that has a sliver of land in Hollis.

Jay would like to add updating the Strategic Land Acquisition Plan to the April meeting.

The Board just received a water test invoice dated November of 2023 for \$1,755.25 for the water sampling that was completed last year. The Board agreed this should come out of the BCC Fund.

Drew made a motion to pay \$1,755.25 out of the BCC fund for water testing expense. Jay seconded. Vote yes 4-0.

Adjourn

Drew made a motion to adjourn at 8:14 pm. Jay seconded. Vote yes 4-0.

Francis (Buddy) Dougherty, Chairman, _____

Jay Chrystal, Vice Chair, _____

Jerry Jaworski, Member, _____

Drew Kellner, Member, _____

Minutes prepared by Kristen Austin

Next Conservation Commission meeting will be held on April.