



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

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**Minutes  
Tuesday, November 8, 2022  
Conservation Commission**

**Present: Francis (Buddy) Dougherty, Chairman, (Voting)  
Jay Chrystal, Vice Chairman, (Voting)  
Jerry Jaworski, Member, (Voting)  
Tom Rogers, Member, (Voting)  
Drew Kellner, Alternate  
Sean McNair, Alternate (Arrived at 8:30pm)  
Greg Martin, Alternate**

**Absent: Dana Ketchen, Selectboard Representative Roy Wallen, Alternate and Brendan Denehy, Alternate Selectboard Representative**

**Jay** read the rules for the Hybrid meeting:

- 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**

The Board reviewed the mail folder.

**Non-Public – (1)**

**Jay** invited Michele Decoteau, Town Planner into the non-public discussion.

**Jay made a motion to go into nonpublic session under RSA 91-A: 3, II (d) for the discussion of possible land acquisition. Tom seconded. Roll Call Vote Buddy, Jay, Tom, Jerry, Drew, and Greg all vote yes.**

**Jay made a motion to come out of non-public session and seal the minutes. Seconded by Tom. Roll call vote Buddy, Jay, Tom, Jerry, Drew, and Greg all voted yes.**

### Minutes

**Jay made a motion to approve the minutes for October 11, 2022, public and nonpublic. Tom seconds. Vote yes 4-0.**

**Jay made a motion to approve the September 27, 2022, non-public minutes. Tom seconded. Vote yes 3-0.**

### Trails Committee Structure Discussion

**Tom** said one of the challenges they have is getting a quorum for a meeting. People do show up for trail workdays. This is just a work group and meeting of volunteers. Any decisions have to come to the Conservation Commission to be made. The meetings, the minutes, logging into zoom is more of a hinderance than anything else. They are looking to see if they could hold a less formal meeting. **Tom** said everything they discuss doing needs to come here for discussion and approval. They have also had an issue because they have had three Conservation Commission members that attends most all of the Trails meeting and that becomes a quorum of Conservation Commission Members. **Drew** said it would be easier if one member bows out of each of the meetings. **Buddy** said in that last few months you haven't held many meetings. **Jerry** said due to attendance they have had to cancel. **Tom** said everyone is just so busy at the moment. **Tom** said right now, they organize workdays, trail maintenance, and discuss naming of trails. Any ideas they come up with must come to the Conservation Commission for a final decision. **Jay** said this is just more of a brainstorming meeting. **Tom** said that is correct. **Jerry** said Buddy has attended most of the Trail's meeting. **Buddy** said he has been passionate about the trails in this town for years. **Jay** said he thought if they are not discussing policies and money then it shouldn't matter how many Conservations Commission members are there. **Michele** said if you have a posted agenda, you could add that a quorum of BCC members may be at this meeting. **Tom** said he will resign from the Trail Committee tonight. This will fix having a quorum of BCC members at a meeting. **Jay** said let's add this to the next agenda.

### Ghost Train Update (Buddy)

**Buddy** said Ghost Train was a huge success this year. He thanked Michele for her help this year. Drew and Brendan went above and beyond this year as the timing guy couldn't make it and they covered that post. Next year this race will be handled by the Town of Brookline and Milford as it was when it first started.

### RTP Grant for Gates (Buddy)

**Buddy** said he owes Drew paperwork and information on the gates. The gates fall within the category for grant funding. **Drew** said they will need three bids and the equipment may still need the made in America stamp. He will find out if that requirement still applies.

### ARPA Funding (Buddy)

They were granted the ARPA funding to install cameras at designated trail head parking areas. They have two years to accomplish this.

### Milfoil Grant (Buddy)

**Buddy** said Kristen has put together the grant paperwork for 2023 and has reached out for bids from the divers for hand harvesting.

### **Thanksgiving 5K Update (Drew)**

**Drew** said this will be held Thanksgiving Day in the morning. There are 89 slots full. That leaves 11 openings left. He will have a porta potty dropped at this location at the cost of \$250. This is an 8:00 am start race, and they usually only need three volunteers. Timing should be easier this year. They have an app for manual timing. Hopefully by 10:00 am they will be done.

### **Grant for Palmer Bartell area newest land purchases (Drew)**

**Drew** said a grant round they had missed had funds left over so they have opened it up again this is for \$5,000 to \$10,000 this is a transactional grant. The due date is 12/2/2022. He just needs authorization from the Board. **Buddy made a motion to support Drew's endeavor to apply for more funding from the Merrimack Conservation Partnership. Jay seconded. Vote yes 4-0.**

### **Talbot Taylor Policies (Jerry)**

**Jerry** had created a sign for Talbot Taylor with the policies that will be posted at both entry ways. The Board reviewed the sign. **Jerry** will take the suggested changes to the policies and the Board can discuss it at the next meeting.

### **Quarry Trail Bridge Upgrade/Presentation (Greg/Jerry)**

**Greg** had a presentation of the Quarry Trail Bridge Upgrade which they had added more fencing that was approved at the October meeting. The presentation showed the progress of the beaver deceiver over the past few months.

### **Update on Averill Rd./Wallace Brook (Greg/Sean)**

**Greg** said this is located more towards 21 Averill Road. There was some debris on one side of the culvert. Sean and Greg cleared the debris, they will need to keep this on their radar as there is some beaver activity in this area but not a lot.

### **Mary's Trail Parking/Trail upgrades (graded base/trap) (Greg)**

**Greg** handed out a rough estimate listing the material and the proposed cost for Mary's trail. The Board discussed the material they should use to fix the problem areas. **Greg** said he will keep this project on the to do list.

### **BCC Managed land**

**Jerry** said he has put together a list of land the Conservation Commission manages for the Selectboard. **Drew** said they just need to clarify the lots they manage where they may be missing paperwork. **Jerry** asked if the Palmer land (Lot B-65-11) was bought or donated. **Drew** said it was donated. **Jerry** said they have a few more lots that they will need to decide if they are managed by the Conservation Commission. The Board agreed to manage the following Lot K-101(Wetlands) and K-101-16 (no wetlands).

They agreed they will not manage the following lot K-101-5 (cistern) and G-20 (Covered Bridge - Nissitissit Park) that goes with G-65.

### **Melendy Pond Land**

**Buddy** said at the last Selectboard meeting they discuss the walk with the Co-Op Extension Foresters, and he thought it was clear from the Selectboard meeting that the Chairman of the Selectboard thinks that the timber from the Melendy land is worth an untold amount of money and

would be all for cutting the timber out of there. He believes that the Melendy Pond Authority should be in charge of the camps and the land around the pond, but the woods area should be under the Conservation Commission purview. The Board agreed they need to figure out who is in charge of the Melendy woods. **Jay** said maybe they should approach the Selectboard about separating the camp area from the vacant land area via lot line adjustment. Designate a separate parcel for Melendy Pond Authority. **Jay** said his discussions with Tom Solon and Susan seem to align that the Conservation Commission should be in charge of the forest aspect of this area. **Tom made a motion to allow Jay to draft a letter to the Selectboard noting that during our most recent walk with the NH CO-OP and the two Foresters the woods are in a healthy condition and are not in need of logging. Jerry seconded. Vote yes 4-0.**

#### **Lot D-62**

**Jay** said they are still waiting on a title issue.

#### **Non-Public – (2)**

**Jay made a motion to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3, II (d) for the discussion of possible land acquisition and RSA 91-A:3, II (c) reputation and immediately adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Tom. Roll call vote Buddy, Jay, Jerry, Dana, Drew, Sean, and Greg all voted yes.**

**Jay made a motion to come out of non-public session and seal the minutes. Seconded by Tom. Roll call vote Buddy, Jay, Tom, Jerry, Drew, Sean, and Greg all voted yes.**

#### **Adjourn**

**Jay made a motion to adjourn at 9:55 pm. Drew seconded. Vote yes 4-0.**

**Francis (Buddy) Dougherty, Chairman, \_\_\_\_\_**

**Jay Chrystal, Vice Chairman, \_\_\_\_\_**

**Tom Rogers, Member, \_\_\_\_\_**

**Jerry Jaworski, Member, \_\_\_\_\_**

Minutes prepared by Kristen Austin

Next Conservation Commission meeting will be held on December 13, 2022