



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

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**Minutes
Tuesday, September 12, 2023
Conservation Commission**

**Present: Francis (Buddy) Dougherty, Chairman, (Voting)
Jay Chrystal, Vice Chairman (Voting)
Brendan Denehy, Selectboard Representative, (Voting)
Drew Kellner, Alternate, (Voting for Tom)
Greg Martin, Alternate, (Voting for Jerry)
Sean McNair, Alternate (Arrived at 8:10pm)**

**Absent: Tom Rogers, Member, Jerry Jaworski, Member, Roy Wallen, Alternate
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.

Buddy asked Greg to Vote for Jerry. **Greg** agreed.

Buddy asked Drew to vote for Tom. **Drew** agreed.

Kevin Gorgoglione was in attendance and discussed a letter he received from the BCC regarding the property line abutting the Conservation property and piles of tree and branches that have piled up and grassing clippings, etc. The Board and Kevin agreed to meet at this location on November 18th at 1:00pm.

Resignation

Buddy said read the email that the Board received from Tom Rogers “I am writing to formally resign from my position as a member of the Brookline Conservation Commission as of 9/12/2023. This decision was not made lightly, and I have taken some time to reflect on it.

Over the past nine years, it has been an honor to serve on the BCC. During this time, I have had the privilege of working alongside dedicated individuals who share a passion for Environmental conservation and community betterment. Together, we have undertaken several important projects and initiatives aimed at preserving and protecting our local environment.

However, due to personal reasons and shifting priorities in my life, I find it necessary to step down from my position on the Commission at this time. I believe that this decision is in the best interests of both the Commission and myself.

I am committed to ensuring a smooth transition of any projects that I am involved with period to that end, I'm willing to assist with transactions of projects and sharing of information and contacts related to areas of my involvement (scout projects and contacts, Facebook activities, game cameras, ghost train parking, etc.). Please let me know how I can be of assistance during this transition.

I want to express my gratitude to the entire Commission for the support, camaraderie, and valuable experiences I have gained during my tenure. It has been an honor to contribute to the important work of the Commission.

Thank you for your understanding and for the opportunity to serve the community in this capacity. I wish the BCC continued success in its efforts to protect and enhance our local environment.

Sincerely,
Tom Rogers”

Drew said Tom will be missed. The Board agreed. Drew made a motion to accept, with regret, the resignation letter from Tom Rogers and to Thank Tom for his 9 years of services. Buddy seconded. Vote yes 5-0.

Buddy asked Drew if he was interested in becoming a full member of the Conservation Commission. Drew said he would accept the Full member term position.

Jay made a motion to recommend to the Selectboard that Drew Kellner become a full member of the Conservation Commission with a term expiring in March of 2025. Buddy seconded . Vote yes 5-0.

Minutes

Brendan made a motion to approve the public and non-public minutes of August 8, 2023, as amended. Jay seconded. Vote yes 5-0.

Ghost Train Rail Race

Drew said the Ghost Train Rail Race is the week of October 13th through the 15th. There is a link for volunteering on the website and they have added another 15mile race this year.

Letter of Support for NH Fish and Game for a Fish Passage Grant for Potanipo

Drew said he spoke with Matt Carpenter from Fish and Game. They are looking to apply for a grant for a fish passage at Lake Potanipo by the boat launch. They are looking for a letter of

support from the Conservation Commission. This is for an engineer to see if there is even a feasible site at the lake for a fish passage. **Greg moved to authorize Buddy to sign a letter of support for New Hampshire Fish and Game for a grant to study the feasibility of a fish passage at Lake Potanipo. Drew seconded. Vote yes 5-0.**

PLC Fields

Greg said they were invited by PLC to discuss field maintenance in Bedford NH at Jappa Hill. He said PLC's main goal this year is invasive plants and how to treat them. They also discussed how fields shrink and how to cut back without affecting the wildlife. This was very educational, and he wanted to know if the Board had any interest in looking at the Martin field to get a better idea of how to maintain it. The Board agreed this would be a good idea.

Right to Know Law 2023 update

Brendan said he attended a right to know seminar and updated the Board on the newest changes to the RSA regarding nonpublic minutes.

Additional mowing to the rail trail and stock piling gravel for Bartell trail repairs

Buddy said there needs to be additional mowing along the north end of the rail trail. He asked **Drew** to reach out to Daryl Pelletier and see if he could complete this before the Ghost Train Event. **Greg made a motion to authorize mowing and trail maintenance not to exceed \$800, the money to come from the ghost train \$ out of the BCC revolving fund. Drew seconded. Vote yes 5-0.**

Buddy said he would also like to stockpile material for trail maintenance. The Board agreed. **Drew made a motion not to exceed \$600 from the revolving fund under ghost train expenses to have material crushed gravel etc. dropped off for the purpose of trail maintenance. Greg seconded. Vote yes 5-0.**

Comments for PB on Case SD#2023-2:F-34, 2 Lot subdivision off Route 13.

The Board reviewed the proposed subdivision plan. **Drew** said he had no issues. **Jay** stated that there is a small corner of the property that is in the aquifer protection district. It all slopes away from Route 13. The Board had no comments for the Planning Board for this case.

Non-public

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

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

Adjourn

Jay made a motion to adjourn at 8:30 pm. Brendan seconded. Vote yes 5-0.

Francis (Buddy) Dougherty, Chairman, _____

Jay Chrystal, Vice Chair, _____

Drew Kellner, Alternate, _____

Brendan Denehy, Selectboard Representative, _____

Greg Martin, Alternate, _____

Minutes prepared by Kristen Austin

Next Conservation Commission meeting will be held on October 10, 2023