



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

**P.O. BOX 360 – 1 Main Street
BROOKLINE, NH 03033-0360**

<http://www.brooklinenh.us>

Telephone (603) 673-8855, ext. 216
Fax (603) 673-8136

**Minutes
Tuesday, October 10, 2023
Conservation Commission**

Present: Francis (Buddy) Dougherty, Chairman, (Voting)
Jay Chrystal, Vice Chairman (Voting)
Jerry Jaworski, Member (Voting)
Brendan Denchy, Selectboard Representative, (Voting)
Roy Wallen, Alternate (Voting for Drew)
Greg Martin, Alternate, Alternate
Sean McNair, Alternate (Arrived at 8:08pm)

Absent: Drew Kellner, Alternate, ~~Jerry Jaworski, Member~~ and Brian 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 said Roy will vote for Drew. **Roy** agreed.

Minutes

Brendan made a motion to approve the public and non-public minutes of September 12, 2023, as amended. **Jerry** seconded. Vote yes 3-0.

2024 Budget Discussion

The Board reviewed the budget. They will submit a flat budget as follows:
Maint. Of Conservation Lands \$3,560

Conferences \$170
Memberships \$550
Postage & Public Information \$220
Outside Consulting \$100
Water Sampling \$2,000
Invasive Species \$7,500
Taylor Dam \$400
Milfoil Treatment \$30,000

Brendan said he would present this to the Selectboard on November 1, 2023, at or about 7:00pm. **Jay** said they will also be submitting a warrant article he just needs to put together the wording. **Kristen** reminded the Board that the budget and the warrant articles are due to the Selectboard by October 20, 2023.

Ghost Train Rail Race (October 14 & 15)

Buddy said the church will be holding the spaghetti supper the Friday night (10/13/2023) before the event. 400 runners have signed up. There are people on the wait list.

Turkey Trot 5K Race (November 23)

Buddy said Drew will be going forward with this event this year.

Roy and **Greg** offered to volunteer for this event. **Greg** said this event usually ends about 10:30ish.

Completion of Sleeping Rock Trail (Jerry)

Jerry said Sleeping Rock Trail has been completed. **Jerry** made a presentation to the Board. This trail connects Cider Mill Trail with Fessenden Trail. **Jerry** said he would like to send a thank you letter to James Gibson. The Board agreed.

Discuss Contributions of James Gibson on Hobart-Fessenden & Palmer-Barlett (Jerry)

Jerry said James has designed sustainable trails. The trails follow the contours of the land. They minimize impact to vegetation erosion and avoid wet areas and the necessity for bridges. These trails are designed to maximize enjoyment of the environment. They highlight the natural features of the landscape and create a secluded, off-the-beaten path feel for users. They also accommodate a diverse user community including mountain bikers, hikers, trail runners, snowshoers, and cross-country skiers.

He has worked closely with the Conservation Commission to plan the trails and keep the Commission informed on the progress, there are no unexpected “surprises” when a trail is completed. He also consults with key members of the New England Mountain Bike Association to optimize trail designs. James has spent significant time and effort building these trails. He uses his own tools and pays for the materials he has used to build the 2 short bridges for Sleeping Rock and the short bridge for Blue Jay.

Appoint a new Representative for Scouts and Wild and Scenic Council (Jerry)

Tom Rogers was the BCC representative to the Scouts and Wild and Scenic. He also set the game cameras and updated Facebook for the BCC.

Roy volunteered to be the Scout representative and Jerry said he will back him up.

Greg said he will volunteer to be the Representative for the Wild and Scenic.

Brendan said he will contact Tom to get the password for the Facebook page. Buddy said this should be a two person job.

Greg said he will also contact Tom about Game Cameras and will take on this responsibility.

Brendan made a motion to recommend to the Selectboard ^{that} the Greg Martin be appointed as the BCC Representative to Wild and Scenic. Jerry seconded. Vote yes 5-0.

PLC Fields Update (Greg)

Greg and Jerry had met with Dan Ewalds and Matt Tarr and two people from Fish and Game at Joppa Hill Fields in Amherst to learn about maintaining the health of fields. After a brief discussion the Board agreed they should invite the same people to Martin's Field (Lot K-34 off Route 13 to discuss what is the best course of action for the best maintenance plan for the fields. The Board agreed to meet November 17, 2023, at 1:00pm. They will park at Cider Mill Trail head parking and carpool over to the Martin Field.

Camp Flannery Pit Toilet (Greg)

Greg said he spoke to Laurie Stephens about the pit toilet to try to get this project moving again. They will need to decide on a location, and they will need to fill out paperwork with the state. Buddy said he doesn't believe they will need to go through the state. Greg said he will look into that further.

Dam Trail for Trail Discussion (Greg)

Greg said there was a pile of rock dumped on this trail. This pile has grown since they had last seen it.

Milfoil Update (Brendan)

Brendan asked if there would be any more milfoil expenses. Buddy said there should be any more expenses this year the divers are done for the year, and they didn't apply for a permit to chemically treat. that will need to be done next year.

Update on various budgets (Town funds, Trail Funds, Etc.) (Brendan)

Buddy said they have a few projects left that will zero out the trails Maintenance line item in the budget.

Status on Camera purchases (Brendan)

Buddy said he has a quote for the cameras. The information is in the mail folder from One Source Security on the Vosker V3000 Solar Powered Camera System. The cost is about \$1,000 each.

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

Drew suggested they write a letter of support for Fish and Game in support of a Grant for a Fish Passage at Lake Potanipo. The Board agreed.

General Business

Michele Decoteau, Town Planner was in attendance and said there are two places in the ordinance where a review by the Conservation Commission is required. One is for the aquifer protection district and the second is for open space developments. She has created a draft check list for the Board to use when reviewing plans, so the Commission doesn't miss anything. **Jay** reviewed her draft check list. **Jay** said for a long time they have been requesting to review all plans that come to the Planning Board as they look into more than just what is written on the draft list. They discussed Open Space developments and who determines where the open space lot is turned over to.

Brendan said the visioning process is still going on. He ^{has} a rough data from the survey that was put out. There is a forum on the 21st and the 24th to gather more information. **Buddy** said our newest land purchase could be a talking point at that meeting. **Roy** suggested they pull a map together for these meetings. **Jerry** said he will work on that with Jay. **Brendan** suggested including the land purchase from last year of five lots.

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 Jerry. Roll call vote Buddy, Jay, Jerry, Brendan, 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 Jerry. 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, _____

Jerry Jaworski, Member, _____

Brendan Denchy, Selectboard Representative, _____

Drew Kellner, , _____

Minutes prepared by Kristen Austin

Next Conservation Commission meeting will be held on November 14, 2023

