



# Town of Amherst, NH

## Conservation Commission

### Draft Minutes

Barbara Landry Meeting Room

Wednesday, June 26, 2019

*Conservation Commission members in attendance were: Chairman Rob Clemens, Vick Bennison, Bill Widmer (Alternate member voting for Jared Hardner), Rich Hart, Bill Stoughton (Alternate member, voting for John Harvey).*

#### **I. Call to Order**

Chairman Clemens called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

#### **II. Chair Comments**

Chairman Clemens noted that a new agenda item had been added to tonight's meeting.

#### **III. Review of Meeting Minutes**

Chairman Clemens deferred review and approval of June 12 meeting minutes as Ms. Patenaude was unable to attend, attendance was low, and most in attendance had not yet read the minutes. Mr. Bennison will draft minutes of tonight's meeting.

#### **IV. Treasurer's Report**

No treasurer report was presented. There was a discussion of BOS approval to encumber funds for invasives control at the Lindabury and Scott properties. But further definition and direction from the contractor, VCS, had been requested.

*A MOTION was made by Mr. Widmer and SECONDED by Mr. Stoughton to approve an amount not to exceed \$3,250 for edge mowing at the Scott property and an amount not to exceed \$600 for poison ivy treatment at the BPR Canoeport.*

*Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.*

#### **V. Planning & Permits**

Mr. Stoughton noted that the Planning Board was considering the Jacobson Farm Development Proposal, and Mr. Clemens noted that the project proponent had requested to present at the 7/10/2019 ACC meeting.

**VI. Tinker Garden Request for use of Lindabury Orchard – Rachel Allen**

Ms. Allen explained her proposed use of Lindabury Orchard for her program called Tinker Garden. The program is for introducing children 18 months to eight years old to nature, via an outdoor program of games and other activities. They have been using PMEC, but the summer there is very busy. Parents attend with children for one-to-one activities. The request is for six days, Tuesdays and Thursdays, July 9 through July 25, 2019, from 9:30 to 10:45. At most 15 students, but only three or four are currently signed up. Rich Hart brought up the problem of parking at Lindabury and also the existence of poison ivy in places despite our efforts to control it. The Recreation Department supports this program and participates in a revenue sharing agreement with Tinkergarden, currently. They will need BOS approval.

*A MOTION was made by Mr. Stoughton and SECONDED by Mr. Widmer to approve the use by Tinker Garden of Lindabury Orchard for six days, Tuesdays and Thursdays, July 9 through July 25, pending approval of the BOS.*

*Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.*

**VII. Easement Monitoring – Mr. Stoughton**

Mr. Stoughton reported on progress in monitoring ACC properties. There was the question of enforcement of encroachment remedies. Selectman Peter Lyon said that the appropriate process was to report encroachments that can't be resolved easily and reasonably by the ACC to the BOS via the Amherst Town Manager.

**VIII. Purler Easement – Laurie Mix**

Amherst resident Laurie Mix discussed existing trails on the Purler Easement. These are mostly overgrown and need repair or reblazing. They have never been ACC trails. They connect land in Atherton Commons with Old Milford Road and Amherst Street. They want ACC to take over ownership, but they are willing to provide manpower to restore the trails. There are possible problem with parking and crosswalks. The ACC will follow up.

**IX. Parker Farm Easement and Corn Crib – Will Ludt and Rob Clemens**

Will Ludt of the Amherst Heritage Commission and Rob Clemens spoke about the possibility of running a trail from the existing Josiah Parker Trail to the Corn Crib across from 82 Baboosic Lake Road. There is an existing trail, but it needs fallen trees removed or re-routing and other maintenance to be put back into use. The ACC will proceed to mark out the trail in a joint effort with the Amherst Heritage Commission.

**X. Old Home Days**

Amherst Old Home Days will be Saturday, September 7, from 10 AM to 3 PM. There will be

many activities such as artisan markets, colonial recreation (Redcoats), games, food trucks, a beer garden, etc. The question is does ACC want to participate, and if so, in what manner?

*A MOTION was made by Mr. Stoughton and SECONDED by Mr. Bennison to participate in Amherst Old Home Days, Saturday, September 7, in a manner to be decided later.*

*Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.*

## **XI. Adjournment**

*A MOTION was made by Mr. Bennison and SECONDED by Mr. Stoughton to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m.*

*Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.*

*Respectfully submitted,  
Victor L. Bennison*

**Finance and Asset Manager Report  
As Of November 30, 2018**

**Treasury**

- **Conservation Fund: \$609,819.72**
  - Paid VCS (Beaver Brook): \$1,500
  - Paid Koch (Forest GIS survey): \$4,517.50
  - Deposit (Interest): \$201.61
- **Town Budget FY19: \$20,049.08**
  - Paid Ricitelli (Meadow mowing): \$1,072.50
  - Paid SpeedPro Graphics (Trail maps): \$582.38
- **Gift: \$8,948.37**
  - Income (Opportunity Networks): \$1,000
  - Deposit (Interest): \$7.78

**Contracts, Leases and Purchases**

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**Assets**

- No transactions