

TOWN OF OSS�PEE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES

February 12, 2020

Minutes were recorded, and a Summary transcribed by Laura Nash, Commission Secretary. Revisions to these minutes are noted by ***bold/italic*** type.

Call to Order: Marie McConarty called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Roll Call: Marie McConarty – Chair, Ralph Buchanan, James Dolan, Lorey Pendarvis and Krystal Eldridge.

Meeting Minutes: Review to approve January 8, 2020 Minutes.

A **Motion** by Buchanan to approve the meeting minutes of January 8, 2020. Dolan seconded. No discussion. All voted in favor. **Motion passed.**

Guest: Jill Emerson, GMCG- Water Quality Coordinator and Sarah with VBAP presented the 2019 Ossipee Lake Water Quality Report. GMCG was formed in 1997. GMCG tests all the tributaries in Ossipee on a bi-weekly basis, May through October with 17 years of high volunteer rates.

The water quality standards are determined by either NHDES or EPA. GMCG tests for six parameters, which include dissolved O₂, Conductivity, pH, turbidity, temperature, Total Phosphorus.

Buchanan questioned if any testing is done on Duncan Lake because 2 years ago, after high heat spell, there were about 200 fish that died due to heat, drought and wind. He questioned if this happens on Ossipee Lake anywhere. Emerson referred to this as “dead zones.” Ossipee Lake does not have these areas, but Danforth Bay does have some “dead zone” areas that are 8 – 10 meters downs where the oxygen levels disappear.

Emerson provided the statistical data on each parameter tested at the locations of OL-4u Lovell Brook, OL-6u Pine River, OL-7 Red Brook coming out of Heath Bog, OL-2 Bearcamp River, GO-1 Beech River, GO-2 Frenchman Brook, GO-5 Bearcamp River, and GO-7 Ossipee Outflow.

Discussion ensued over the use of rock salt versus brining salt, which has 25% less salt than rock salt. McConarty will discuss with the new Highway Superintendent, TJ Eldridge.

GMCG now monitors for cyanobacteria and harmful algae blooms. They are working with NHDES on identifying bacteria's. Emerson conveyed a list of upcoming school events. The VBAP program will start again this with the school kids. Discussion ensued over the number of culverts are in Ossipee. Emerson was referred to TJ Eldridge, Highway Superintendent for a possible answer.

Financial:

- Transfer funds from MM to Checking

A **Motion** by Buchanan to transfer \$5,000.00 from the money market account to the Conservation checking account to pay invoices. Dolan seconded. No discussion. All unanimous vote was taken. **Motion passed.**

A **Motion** by Dolan to request an activity report from the Money Market account and Conservation Checking account from January 1, 2019 to year to date. Eldridge seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion passed.**

- American Forest Foundation – After discussion and verified through Buchanan this donation has not participated in a few years. The CC declined to donate at this time.

- Society for the Protection of NH Forest – Annual Membership of \$150.00

A **Motion** by Buchanan to pay the Annual Membership to SPNHF in the amount of \$150.00. Payment is to be made from the Dues and Workshop line item of the operating budget.

Pendarvis seconded. No discussion. All unanimous vote was taken. **Motion passed.**

- Shorelands Permit: White Mountain Survey & Engineering; Tax Map: 096 Lot: 024 for Annie Nichols Rd. Parking Project. Application fee \$ 1,565.20

McConarty per conversation with the Beech River Mill owners that the State wants the dam to come down because in possess a danger to the building. The State wants the Mill to pay for the dam to be taken down. The Mill claims they do not own the dam because it was never on the deed from the Smart's, and the Smart's still own the dam. If the Mill does not remove the dam, they will be charged a monthly fee because it could pose a flood issue. The Mill has told the State he is not taking down the dam, he's not paying the monthly fee because it's not his dam. The owners of the Mill would dismantle the mill before taking down the dam because the mill is worth more in repurposed wood than the dam is worth. McConarty questioned is the dam is taken down the river will become a stream and questioned if the CC wants to continue with this project. Buchanan commented it would diminish the water flow, but the overall esthetic of the historic site would not change.

A **Motion** by Dolan to expend in the amount of \$1,565.20 for invoice to NHDES for the Annie Nichols Rd. Parking Project. Pendarvis seconded. No discussion. All unanimous vote was taken. **Motion passed.**

Old Business:

- Tamworth Property: Emily Landry – Forest Society site inspection. The CC reviewed the emails and Emily's request of someone from the CC to walk the property with her. After discussion it was determined that due to work schedules no one was available until the weekend. McConarty asked the secretary to contact Emily and request if she could inspect on the weekend, when a CC member was available to participate. The CC wants to determine who is dumping trash on the property.

- Sign Project: Town Forest – Buchanan reported he has the material but needs assistance cutting, building and installing the sign. McConarty and Eldridge said they would help, once Buchanan is ready.

- Beech River & Annie Nichols Rd Parking: already discussed.

New Business:

- Lake Host Program: McConarty updated the CC members on the Budget Committee's decision and that it should be included in the Milfoil/Invasive Species Fund. Ned Kucera will be paid this year out of the money market account, but next year, Ned Kucera will need to apply as an outside agency for funding.

- NH Tree Farm Program: Buchanan will try to reach out to Rick Gerard or Tim Nolan to start the process. Funds from the timber cut will go to the Town because the property was donated by Harry Smart to provide heating assistance through the General Assistance program for Ossipee residents.

NHDES/NHDOT: The CC reviewed and had no concerns.

DOT Subject Project – Route 16 and Polly Crossing Rd.

Wetlands Permit:

- File No.: NHB19-1443; DES File No. 2018-03477; Ossipee Aggregates Corp; Tax Map: 130 Lot: 010. Request for more information. (update)

Intent to Cut: The CC reviewed each Intent to Cut and had no concerns.

- **Tax Map: 078 Lot: 004:** (Original Cut) Owner: Winifred G. Mitchell on Chapel Rd, to cut 5 acres of 19 acres of land by Michael Eldridge of Eldridge Logging, LLC., anticipated start date 12/15/2019. Approved by the Board of Selectmen. Taxes are paid. No Cemetery.
- **Tax Map: 057 Lot: 002:** (Supplemental Cut) Owner: Jim Rymes on Connor Pond Rd, to cut 4 acres of 38.950 acres of land by Perley Ryder, anticipated start date continuation from 12/20/2019. Approved by the Board of Selectmen. Taxes are paid. No Cemetery.
- **Tax Map: 263 Lot: 015:** (Original Cut) Owner: Van & Constance Hertel & Lawrence & Erika Gray on Granite Rd, to cut 100 acres of 112.149 acres of land by David DeGruttola, NH LPF 331, anticipated start date 01/13/2020. Approved by the Board of Selectmen. Taxes are paid. Cemetery on Property.
- **Tax Map: 041 Lot: 003 Sub: 006:** (Original Cut) Owner: Malcolm Bacon on Pine Hill Rd, to cut 5 acres of 5.5 acres of land by Lance Williams of Tuftonboro, anticipated start date 02/15/2020. Approved by the Board of Selectmen. Taxes are paid. **No** Cemetery on Property.

Informational Newsletters:

- GMCG: The Watershed News – Winter 2020
- Society for the Protection of NH Forest: Forest Notes Magazine
- Water World – January 2020
- NHF&G – Wildlines, winter 2020
- Lakes Region Conservation Trust – The Legacy – Fall 2019-Winter 2020

Any Other Business that May Come Before the Commission:

The CC Members were each provided a copy of the yearly responsibilities list and a copy of the NHACC – “What Must a Conservation Commission Do?” to assist with answering questions of responsibilities.

The CC noted the date of the next meeting is the same night as the Annual Town Meeting. The CC opted to reschedule the March 11th, 2020 meeting to March 18th, 2020.

Adjournment:

A **Motion** made by Dolan to adjourn the meeting. Buchanan seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **All voted in favor, motion passed.** The meeting ended at 8:43 PM.

Next meeting date: April 8, 2020

Minutes approved by majority vote of the Commission on _____

Date

or

Marie McConarty, Chairperson

Ralph Buchanan, Vice Chairperson
(In the absence of the Chairman)