

# APPROVED

## Town of Grantham Grantham Conservation Commission

### MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 15, 2014

Chairman Sheridan Brown called the Grantham Conservation Commission to order on Monday, September 15, 2014 at 7:04 p.m. The meeting was held in the Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room at Grantham Town Hall located at 300 Route 10 South in Grantham, NH.

**Present:** Chairman Sheridan Brown; Susan Buchanan; Dick Hocker; Connie Howard; David Wood; and Caroline Hoen, Clerk

**Members of the Public:** David Beckley

#### ADMINISTRATIVE

##### Approval of Minutes for 16 June, 2014 Meeting

Chair Brown asked if there were any additions, corrections, or modifications to the draft minutes for the June 16, 2014 meeting. Wood requested that on Page 1 in the first line of the last paragraph, the words “point system used for” be deleted. Brown then asked if there were any further changes to be made.

*There being none, a motion was made by Wood to approve and accept the June 16, 2014 Minutes as amended; second by Hocker. There being no further discussion, the motion was put to a vote.*

*Unanimously Approved & Accepted*

#### NEW BUSINESS

##### **GCC Sponsorship of a Student Delegate to the 11/01/14 Annual Meeting of the NH Association of Conservation Commissions (NHACC)**

Sue Buchanan proposed that the Commission consider sponsoring Elizabeth Peterson, a Grantham resident and 2014 graduate of Lebanon High School, as a student delegate to the NHACC Annual meeting on November 1, 2014. Ms. Peterson will be studying environmental issues at the college level next year and wishes to pursue a career in conservation. There is no fee attached to this sponsorship.

## **APPROVED**

*A motion was made by Wood to approve the Grantham Conservation Commission's sponsorship of Elizabeth Peterson as a student delegate to the November 1, 2014 Annual Meeting of the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions; second by Buchanan. There being no further discussion, the motion was put to a vote.*

***Unanimously Approved & Accepted***

### **Approval of Payout to Meadowsend Timberlands Ltd.**

*A motion was made by Hocker to pay \$120.00 to Meadowsend Timberlands Ltd. for services rendered in connection with the American Tree Farm System assessment of the Grantham Town Forest, using funds drawn from the Town Forest Maintenance account; second by Howard. There being no further discussion, the motion was put to a vote.*

***Unanimously Approved & Accepted***

### **Approval of Payout to NHACC**

Wood asked that the Commission cover the cost of three copies of the book *New Hampshire Municipal Conservation Fund Guidebook* that he had procured from NHACC for the use of Town officials and personnel.

*A motion was made by Buchanan to pay an NHACC invoice in the amount of \$30.00 covering the cost of three copies of the book New Hampshire Municipal Conservation Fund Guidebook, with funds to be drawn from the Supplies account; second by Hocker.*

***Approved & Accepted with one abstention (Wood)***

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Open Space Committee Report**

Buchanan stated that there was no progress to report on the Open Space initiative since the Committee had not met during the summer months. An open ended discussion ensued on the current value of the Committee's effort to identify, evaluate and rank Grantham's open spaces and its relationship to the 2005 Master Plan, the mandated 2015 revision of the Plan, the Commission's work on funding strategies for conservation land purchases, and the public's understanding and acceptance of the importance of open space preservation. The lack of coordination among these elements is impeding progress toward an action plan. It is now clear that there will be no open space proposal to put before the voters at the 2015 Town Meeting.

### **Conservation Commission Vacancies**

Brown noted that two openings on the Commission remain to be filled and that he intends to present an expanded list of possible candidates at the October meeting. It was agreed that two previously discussed candidates be invited to attend this same meeting.

## **APPROVED**

### **NON PUBLIC**

#### **Contract Review**

In accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II(a) and II(d), a motion was made by Wood and seconded by Hocker to enter into a Non-Public session at 8:03 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter and a possible real estate acquisition. **Unanimously approved.** Present were Chairman Sheridan Brown; Susan Buchanan; Dick Hocker; Connie Howard; David Wood; and Clerk Caroline Hoen. *The Commission returned from Non-Public session at 8:40 p.m.*

A motion to seal the minutes of this non-public session was made by Buchanan; second by Hocker. *Unanimously approved.*

### **HANDOUTS**

None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Brown asked if there was any further business. There being none, Howard moved to adjourn the meeting and Wood seconded the motion.

*The Commission voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:57 p.m.*

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Grantham Conservation Commission will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, October 20, 2014 in the Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,

*Caroline Hoen*

Caroline Hoen, Clerk