

Grantham Conservation Commission

MINUTES

FEBRUARY 3, 2020

300 ROUTE 10 SOUTH, GRANTHAM, NH

MEETING CALLED BY	Chairman David Wood
TYPE OF MEETING	Regular Meeting of the Conservation Commission
FACILITATOR	Chairman David Wood
NOTE TAKER	David Wood
COMMISSION MEMBERS	Susan Buchanan, John Eylander, Richard Hocker, Rich Kaszeta, Craig McArt, Dennis Ryan & David Wood
ABSENT	
SELECTBOARD REP	Peter Garland
OTHER VISITORS	Melissa White

Wood called the Grantham Conservation Commission to order on Monday, Feb. 3, 2020 at 7:00 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.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FOR NOV 18, 2019 AND JAN 6, 2020 MEETINGS

DISCUSSION		
Wood asked if there were any additions, corrections, or modification to the draft minutes of the regular meetings of Nov 18, 2019 and January 3, 2020. Changes were requested by Buchanan, Ryan and Eylander.		
Wood announced that he would entertain a motion to approve the November minutes as revised. A motion was made by Kaszeta; seconded by McArt. There being no further discussion, the motion was put to a vote.		
Unanimously Approved & Accepted		
Wood announced that he would entertain a motion to approve the January minutes as revised. A motion was made by Ryan; seconded by Kaszeta. There being no further discussion, the motion was put to a vote.		
Unanimously Approved & Accepted		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Approved minutes will be submitted for posting	Wood	ASAP

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

DISCUSSION		
<u>In accordance with RSA 91-A:3 Section II-d a motion was made by Kaszeta; seconded by Eylander to go into Non-Public session at 7:10 PM.</u> Present were: Wood, Buchanan, Eylander, Hocker, Kaszeta, McArt and Ryan together with White and Garland.		
Roll call vote to enter Non-Public Session:	Wood	Yes
	Buchanan	Yes
	Eylander	Yes
	Hocker	Yes
	Kaszeta	Yes
	McArt	Yes
	Ryan	Yes
A motion in favor of the proposal was made by Wood; seconded by Hocker. There being no further discussion, the motion was put to a vote.		
Unanimously Approved & Accepted		
<u>Motion to Adjourn non-public session was made by Kaszeta and seconded by Buchanan at 7:28 pm.</u> Unanimously Approved		

A motion was made by Kaszeta for the sealing of Non-Public Sessions minutes and was seconded by Buchanan. Unanimously Approved

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Minutes of the Non-public meeting will be submitted	Wood	ASAP

OLD BUSINESS – FISHER LOT

DISCUSSION		
<p>Liquid Lawn: Melissa White reported that the company owners have filed for bankruptcy, whereas the company has not. The town is shown as a creditor. No legal action has been requested by the town to recover funds.</p> <p>Cemetery: Peter Garland reported that Peter James has detail of the stones memorializing the daughters. Action by the Cemetery Committee is awaited.</p>		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None		

OLD BUSINESS – TOWN FOREST

DISCUSSION		
<p>Revision of Miller Pond Rd/Mountain Rd: No responses to the planned alterations were received from abutters. No action has been taken toward moving the electrical pole.</p>		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Determine the issue date of the pole license.	White	ASAP
Ask Turner to provide a new estimate of road work at Town Forest	Wood	ASAP

OLD BUSINESS – TRAIL FINDER

DISCUSSION		
<p>Correction to background Google map: Kaszeta has submitted the requested changes to Google and received notice of receipt.</p> <p>Sawyer Brook Headwaters (SBH): Wood reported that he has recorded the GPS for the various existing roads in and bordering the SBH. It was agreed that the trail descriptions should not go live until the property is fully owned by the town; however, work on the building the web page can begin immediately.</p>		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Confirm the desirability of publicizing the trails with Ausbon-Sargent	Wood	ASAP

OLD BUSINESS – SHORELAND CUTTING APPLICATIONS

DISCUSSION		
<p>A cutting application from the Rosens has been received and was approved.</p>		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None		

OLD BUSINESS – BIOBLITZ PLANNING

DISCUSSION		
<p>Kaszeta, McArt, Buchanan and Ryan confirmed their interest in joining in the planning for the BioBlitz on Feb 14 at 1 pm. It was suggested that pictures of the event be planned and that focus be placed on amphibians and birds.</p>		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Check availability of the Whitney room for 2/14; plan for donuts & coffee	Wood	ASAP

OLD BUSINESS – WETLAND MITIGATION

DISCUSSION		
<p>Repair of the Rt 10 Guardrails: The approval by the GCC of the DOT plan made on Jan 6 was reaffirmed with the caveats that the standard efforts to prevent runoff into the neighboring wetland be instituted and that the GCC would notify the DOT if invasive plants are found in the spring. It was agreed that if mitigation were required that reduction of highway run-off into Stocker and Eastman Ponds is the town's priority.</p>		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Send confirmatory letter to DOT	Wood	ASAP

NEW BUSINESS – TREE FARM APPROVAL

DISCUSSION		
<p>Wood announced that approval of the Tree Farm status for the Town Forest and Fisher lots has been received and is valid through 2026.</p>		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None		

NEW BUSINESS – MEMBERSHIP IN SPNHF

DISCUSSION		
<p>Wood asked whether the GCC should renew its membership in the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests (SPNHF) and, if so, in what amount. Kaszeta made a motion to renew membership with a contribution of \$100 from operating expenses; the motion was seconded by Hocker. There being no further discussion, the motion was put to a vote.</p> <p>Unanimously Approved & Accepted</p>		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Request payment of the SPNHF membership	Wood	ASAP

NEW BUSINESS – ECF LETTER - EARTH DAY/FALL FORUM

DISCUSSION		
<p>Wood read an email from the Eastman Charitable Foundation asking whether the GCC wished to plant a tree for Earth Day and for suggestions for their Fall Forum. It was agreed that planting a flowering crabapple in the Town's memorial plot was a first choice while American chestnuts in the Sawyer Brook Headwaters was a second. Options suggested for the Fall Forum included watershed protection, municipal energy policy and the Open Space opportunities created by the GCC.</p>		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Communicate the suggestions to ECF	Wood	ASAP

NEW BUSINESS – SHERWOOD FOREST MONITORING REPORT

DISCUSSION		
<p>Wood circulated a draft of the annual monitoring report for LCHIP regarding the Flewelling lot/Sherwood Forest. Several additions and alterations were suggested.</p>		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Revise and submit the monitoring report	Wood	ASAP

NEW BUSINESS – GCC ACCOUNTS

DISCUSSION		
<p>White reported changes to the balances of the various funds managed by the GCC. The total balances will be available soon.</p>		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None		

HANDOUTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Wood asked if there was any further business. There being none, Eylander moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 p.m. and Kaszeta seconded the motion.

The Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

NEXT MEETING

next meeting of the Grantham Conservation Commission will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room on Monday, March 2, 2020. Wood will be absent; Hocker will serve as acting chair.

Respectfully submitted,

David Wood
Grantham Conservation Commission Chair