

# Grantham Conservation Commission

## MINUTES

MARCH 20, 2017

300 ROUTE 10 SOUTH, GRANTHAM, NH

<b>MEETING CALLED BY</b>	Chairman David Wood
<b>TYPE OF MEETING</b>	Regular Meeting of the Conservation Commission
<b>FACILITATOR</b>	Richard Hocker
<b>NOTE TAKER</b>	Nikki Arsenault (not in attendance – will transcribe from recording)
<b>COMMISSION MEMBERS</b>	Richard Hocker, Rich Kaszeta, Dennis Ryan, Laura Nagy, John Larrabee
<b>MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC OR OTHER BOARDS &amp; COMMITTEES</b>	N/A

Richard Hocker called the Grantham Conservation Commission to order on Monday, March 20, 2017 at 7:07 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 FEBRUARY 20, 2017 MEETING

<b>DISCUSSION</b>		
Hocker asked if there were any additions, corrections, or modification to the draft meeting minutes for the February 20, 2017 meeting.		
Kaszeta noted that there was one misspelling of the word “interfere” at the bottom of page two. No additional changes or corrections.		
<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>		
There being no changes or additions to the minutes, Hocker announced that he would entertain a motion to approve the January 16, 2017 minutes as drafted.		
A motion was made by Ryan to approve the February 20, 2017 minutes; second by Kaszeta. There being no further discussion, the motion was put to a vote.		
<b>Unanimously Approved &amp; Accepted</b>		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
Meeting minutes for this meeting will be completed within five business days.	Nikki Arsenault	03/27/2017

### OLD BUSINESS – CUTTING APPLICATIONS – LARRABEE AND WOOD

Larrabee noted that there was one cutting application which he handled.		
<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
None at this time.		

OLD BUSINESS – EMERALD ASH BORER - NAGY

<b>DISCUSSION</b>			
Nagy announced that she is working on the publicity for the event – she noted that the event will be listed on the Valley News Community Calendar, Martha is working on a poster, and the event will also be listed on the Town Hall sign (out front). It is also on the Springfield Community Calendar, it has been sent to Enfield, Eastman, and other surrounding communities.			
<b>CONCLUSION</b>			
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	
None at this time.			

OLD BUSINESS – STATUS OF SMITH LOT LOGGING – HOCKER

<b>DISCUSSION</b>			
Hocker referred to the communication sent from Jeremy Turner regarding Smith Lot; more than likely the planned logging will not happen until next winter. The delay has an impact on plans for the Chestnut Grove; the warming hut area may be another possibility. Hocker will be purchasing two yearlings to see how they survive the summer. Hocker added that he has Chinese Chestnut saplings available if anyone would like one.			
<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>			
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	
Email the Garden Club to inform them that GCC will not be participating at the Plant Sale.	Wood		

NEW BUSINESS – LAND OWNER PRIORITIES FOR THE TOWN FOREST – WOOD / HOCKER

<b>DISCUSSION</b>			
Wood provided information earlier on this topic and Hocker opened the floor to give members the opportunity to comment. Hocker noted that maintenance cutting on the lot may be one of the primary things they should be pursuing, although there is not likely a large amount of marketable timber. Nagy added that there are some cellar holes, foundations, and even a cemetery on this land; is there a way to develop a map of these features so people know what is there? Discussion ensued regarding whether or not it would be possible to post signs; perhaps mapping only at this point. Hocker is currently going over the information about conservation easements that he received from the Town Administrator. Ryan suggested asking Wood to re-order the list so that GCC can field the priorities. Once developed, this list can be shared with Jeremy Turner and Laura French.			
Hocker further suggested that the GCC do a walk-through of this property once weather is permitting so that Commission members can see the varied landscape.			
<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>			
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	
Develop priority list.	Wood / Hocker		

NEW BUSINESS – GCC MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS – HOCKER

<b>DISCUSSION</b>			
Hocker noted that there is money allocated in the budget for this purpose; funds must be used by June 30 <sup>th</sup> of this year. Ryan asked if there are other anticipated expenses that may crop up prior to June 30 <sup>th</sup> . Hocker noted that Wood will have to provide a budget update at the next meeting to know the answer to this question.			
<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>			
The Commission agreed to table this topic until next month’s meeting.			
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	
Budget updates – as discussed above.	Wood	Next meeting	

NEW BUSINESS – GRANTHAM VILLAGE SCHOOL

<b>DISCUSSION</b>		
Larrabee noted that he sent an email to the principal at GVS asking for information about their conservation curriculum. Buchanan has since worked with a couple of the teachers and offered GCC as a resource, as needed, for GVS.		
Larrabee also announced that he received the grant from the Eastman Charitable Association for the Little Free Libraries (LFL) project. Funding is included for the materials for Brookside Park, Dunbar Free Library (at Rum Brook Plaza), and the patio at South Cove. The funding also includes subscriptions to youth magazines, and money to add signage to the sites. The grand opening for the Dunbar Free Library's LFL will be July 15, 2017. Larrabee will manage this project in its entirety.		
<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
April / May message on listserv regarding request for book donations	Larrabee	April / May

NEW BUSINESS – TREE INVENTORY – WOOD

<b>DISCUSSION</b>		
Hocker briefly covered the history of this effort, noting that it has been slightly discombobulated. Ryan suggested that this document could be re-written to provide some helpful input. The GCC will re-visit this topic as needed.		
<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
None at this time.		

**ADJOURNMENT**

Hocker asked if there was any further business. There being none, Larrabee moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. and Nagy seconded the motion.

***The Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.***

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Grantham Conservation Commission will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room on Monday, April 17, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,



Nikki Arsenault