

**Town of Northwood
Conservation Commission Minutes
January 5, 2016**

Vice-Chairman Steve Hampl calls the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Present: Vice Chairman Steven Hampl, James Ryan, Wini Young, Thomas Chase, Grace Levergood, Board Administrator Linda Smith, and Board Secretary Lisa Fellows-Weaver. *Shelley Frost arrives at 7:32 p.m.*

Absent: Chairman Steve Roy, Alternate Loren O'Neil, and Alternate Michael Matson.

MINUTES

December 1, 2015

Mr. Chase makes a motion, second by Mr. Ryan, to approve the December 1, 2015, minutes, as written. Motion passes unanimously; 5/0.

MAIN BUSINESS

2016 Goals

Mr. Hampl suggests that the commission postpone this discussion until the February meeting when the chairman is present. Members will think of items for the 2016 goals.

Big Tree

A discussion was held at a prior meeting regarding holding a presentation regarding the town's Hemlock tree and the Big Tree Association. **Mr. Chase makes a motion, second by Ms. Levergood, to host this presentation Wednesday, March 23, 2016, at the town hall at 7:00 p.m.**

The commission requests that a press release be placed in the Forum, Sun, and on the town's website. Ms. Levergood will post this as an event on Facebook. The commission agrees to invite the commissions of Strafford Barrington, Nottingham, Deerfield, and Epsom, along with NALMC, and Bear Paw Regional Greenways. Ms. Smith suggests that a flyer be made up for distribution as well. Mr. Chase will confirm the suggested date with Kevin Martin. Mr. Chase offers to will handle refreshments. A secondary date is scheduled for Wednesday, March 30, 2016, 7:00 p.m.

Motion passes unanimously; 5/0.

Clearing/Blazing of Low Property/Town Forester

A discussion is held regarding the town forester blazing the Low property. Ms. Smith explains that a contract has been signed and the funds have been encumbered. She states that the work must be completed within 90 days or the funds will be returned to the general fund.

Ms. Young states that she has walked the property, excavated areas and found 17 drill holes and at least 7 *locations marked by rebar*. She expresses concern

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with the time frame for the work to be done due to *snow cover*. She adds that the blazing has been done and she offers to walk the area with Mr. Moreno.

Discussion ensues. Ms. Smith states that Mr. Moreno is aware of the circumstances and requirements. She notes that the funds cannot be re-encumbered; however there are funds available in the 2016 budget, if necessary. She will confirm that the completion requirements are specific in the email and will follow up as necessary.

SPECIAL REPORTS

Aquatic Resource Mitigation Project Update – Steve Roy

Continued to February 2, 2016

Hemlock Big Tree ~ Site Walk Notes

Continued to February 2, 2016

Non-Public Session

7:28 p.m. Mr. Hampl makes a motion, seconded by Mr. Chase, to enter into a non-public session under RSA 91-A:3,II(d), potential land acquisition.

Roll Call

Grace Levergood ~ yes

Tom Chase ~ yes

Wini Young ~ yes

Jim Ryan ~ yes

Steve Hampl ~ yes

Motion passes unanimously; 5/0.

Ms. Frost arrives during the non-public session.

7:52 p.m. Mr. Ryan makes a motion, second by Mr. Chase, to come out of non-public session.

Roll Call

Grace Levergood ~ yes

Tom Chase ~ yes

Shelley Frost ~ yes

Wini Young ~ yes

Jim Ryan ~ yes

Steve Hampl ~ yes

Motion passes unanimously; 6/0.

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Mr. Hampl makes a motion, second by Mr. Ryan, to seal the minutes of the non-public session. Motion passes unanimously; 6/0.

OTHER

2016 Budget

Mr. Chase notes that the budget committee did approve the commission's budget. Ms. Smith states that the budget was level funded.

Members

Mr. Hampl welcomes Ms. Levergood to the commission and thanks her for volunteering her time. In addition, he also thanks Ms. Frost for recently joining the commission.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Chase makes a motion, second by Mr. Ryan, to adjourn at 7:57 p.m. Motion passes unanimously; 6/0.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Fellows-Weaver
Board Secretary