

**Town of Northwood  
Conservation Commission Minutes  
May 3, 2016**

Vice Chairman Shelley Frost calls the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

**Present:** Shelley Frost (Vice Chairman), Steven Hampl, James Ryan, Grace Levergood, Thomas Chase, Wini Young, Board Administrator Linda Smith, Land Use Secretary Susan Jastremski-Pastor.  
*Chairman Steve Roy joined the meeting at 7:30*

**Absent:** Alternate Loren O'Neil.

**MINUTES**

***April 5, 2016***

**Mr. Chase makes a motion, second by Ms. Frost, to approve the April 5, 2016 minutes as amended, as follows:**

***Page 1: Change "that is timbers" to "whose"***

***Page 1: Correct typo "shall" to "shale"***

***Page 1: add in "Geiger" where it only says "Mr."***

***Pages 1-3: On all applications add in the names of lakes***

***Page 3: Verify/correct the spelling of Ryan Lovlien's name***

**Motion passes; 7/0. Ms. Frost, second by Mr. Chase to approve the minutes as amended.**

**Special Report:**

***Update on Saddleback Mountain.***

Ms. Young has recently been upgraded to the vice chair of the Friends of Northwood Meadows State Park. She's been blazing the Saddleback Trail for a few years now and has recently discovered that the blazes are being scraped off, along with other vandalism in the park. During her last visit she ran into a family who expressed their concern over blazes, saying they saw them as an eyesore. Ms. Young explained that the orange corresponds with the trail color on the map. In the past they have used trail signs to mark the way, but they have been taken or vandalized. Mr. Hampl suggested a "less offensive" color, but it was pointed out by Chairman Roy that other colors have been scraped off as well. He also stated that to change the colors on the map would cost about \$125 to redo the map. The main concern is that the trails are marked so people don't get lost. The solution seems to be to put the blazes higher on the trees. Ms. Young stated that for now, the trails are blazed. When the time comes to redo the blazes, she will put them higher up. Chairman Roy asked about the condition of the trails as far as overgrowth. Ms. Young stated that she was

***Final as of June 7, 2016***

**Town of Northwood  
Conservation Commission Minutes  
May 3, 2016**

making plans to go in with her husband and a brush cutter and clear away any overgrowth where possible. Ms. Young also expressed interest in getting on to the Guptill property to see if it's a good place to put trails. She already had marked potential trails with red, surveyor tape, and she would like to do that a little more completely. She suggested going out with Bill Wormell, a wetland scientist, to allow him to determine that any proposed trail will not affect ecologically sensitive areas. She also followed up on a question about a possible bridge crossing between the state park off of Dashing Down Road and the Guptill property. The question was where the crossing was located, either the park or the Guptill property and it was determined to be mostly on park land. Greg Bane of the Crankpullers snowmobile club will look to see what type of crossing can be built. The Crank Pullers have limited funds available to use for projects due to a decrease in revenue due to the lack of snow. Chairman Roy suggested a joint project with the Friends Group because they receive grant money each year for a racing series. He also suggested a grant application for the Trails Bureau to buy a full span bridge – at least a 40 foot truss bridge – standard for snowmobile trails. He stated that the Trails Bureau has small grant programs for things like trail development for snowmobiles. He also stated that the trail in question is a relic snowmobile trail that hasn't been used in years. It has a designation number. The process would include getting in front of the Board of Selectman to get a trail reactivated. Chairman Roy also said they just announced a grant round last week. Ms. Young asked about the progress of extending the Demon Pond trail out to the road. Chairman Roy advised that they had flagged the east side of the pond. In closing, she mentioned that she had discovered a point of interest at the southern end of Dashing Down Road where the landing is. There is an 8 foot culvert built by Ed Burt set with stonework underneath the road. She passed around pictures to the commission.

**Public Input:**

No public present

**Considerations of Applications:**

***Shoreline Permit Application***

- 1. Bennett's Bridge Road. Map 105, lot 56.** Chairman Roy stated that this property has three cottages on it. It is owned by The Alice J. Ossoff Revocable Trust. One of the cottages is being lifted and a concrete foundation is being poured. The increase in impervious area is zero square feet. They are also replacing the relic septic system. The application is for the commission to review only; the commission does not need to sign.

***Final as of June 7, 2016***

**Town of Northwood  
Conservation Commission Minutes  
May 3, 2016**

**Correspondence:**

All correspondence is reviewed. No action required.

**Special Report:**

***Aquatic Resource Mitigation Project Update- Steve Roy***

The commission was provided with a copy of the pre-application submittal that was completed by Dan Kern, the Executive Director of Bear Paw Regional Greenways. The pre-approval application contained shapefiles, photos and text. Mr. Roy stated that Mr. Kern suggested that there should be three properties on it, so the cost listed on the pre-application reflects that. The reason for the three properties being listed is that it's easier to step down in project size than it is to step up when applying for approval. Bear Paw came up with a proposed budget of \$192,500. The proposal has the commission contributing \$50K, either in services or matching funds. They are also considering applying to LCHIP, as well as another grant fund, potentially from the Moose Plate or the Open Space Preservation. Mr. Roy initially wanted to apply for all of the funds from New Hampshire's aquatic resource mitigation fund, but Mr. Kern stressed that it always looks better if they bring matching funds from other entities. They are asking for \$125K from ARM. The pre application process takes about a month to process. This year there is only 330K in the Merrimack Aquatic Resource Pool. However there is still over 900K in a special pool of money called CTAP put together for wetland impact just for the neighboring towns to I-93. The boundaries of the 900k may be flexible. So by the end of the month he would like to make a decision on spending the money to hire an appraiser. Dan Kern has stated that there is a mitigation fund for appraisers that work with Bear Paw.

**Summary of Action Items:**

***Fall Presentation:***

During the April 5 meeting, Ms. Levergood had suggested doing a presentation on dams in the fall. Chairman Roy said the target month should be October, before drawdown. Discussion is held about reaching out to lake associations to invite them to that presentation. During the next meeting the commission will draft an invitation to send out. Discussion is held about who to reach out to. Commission will work on gathering email addresses/distribution lists for the invitation. Ms. Levergood also suggested that the lake associations could also make presentations.

***Final as of June 7, 2016***

**Town of Northwood  
Conservation Commission Minutes  
May 3, 2016**

***Clear cut complaint:***

Chairman Roy stated that Ms. Smith did locate Intent to Cut order. Chairman Roy has observed the property from the Strafford side, and thinks it's a possible subdivision. There is a commercial gravel grader and a couple of excavators. Chairman Roy would like an abutter on the Northwood side to verify what is actually happening on the property, because it's not very clear to see from the North side of the property. Chairman Roy feels it would be easier to see from 202A.

**Proposal of Agenda Items for the next meeting.**

Create invitation for the fall presentation.  
Update on the Commission goals for 2016  
Checking in with the forester  
Update on ARM

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Ms. Frost makes a motion, second by Mr. Chase, to adjourn at 8:26 p.m.  
Motion passes unanimously; 7/0**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Susan Jastremski-Pastor, Land Use Secretary**