

**Town of Northwood  
Conservation Commission Minutes  
January 3, 2017**

Chairman Steve Roy calls the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**Present:** Chairman Steve Roy, Vice Chairman Steven Hampl, Shelley Frost, Thomas Chase, Wini Young and Grace Levergood

**Town Staff Present:**

Board Administrator Linda Smith and Land Use Secretary Susan Austin

**MINUTES**

December 6, 2016

**Mr. Roy makes a motion, second by Mr. to approve the December 6, 2016, minutes, as amended, as follows:**

Page 1: Line 21, add "kept it"

Page 2: Line 21, Change: ...Board of Selectmen... to ...Budget Committee...

**Motion passes; 5/0/1.** *Mr. Hampl abstains, as he was not at the meeting*

**Appointments:**

Dan Kern, Bennett Island Forever Project and current fundraising efforts.

Mr. Kern is present from Bear Paw Regional Greenways, along with Kathleen Doherty and Jeff Kantorowski.

Mr. Kern stated that Bear Paw has submitted 5 or 6 grant applications and have only been approved for one. They are asking each town, Strafford and Northwood, to contribute \$50,000. Strafford has already pledged \$30,000. They have received \$10,000 from the Davis Foundation and \$50,000 in private donations. Fundraising continues as well. Mr. Kern stated that they are planning an informational field trip to the Island on January 28.

Chairman Roy asked what they would like from the commission at this point. Mr. Kern stated they would like the commission to pledge \$50,000 tonight, to be paid only at the time of closing. If the deal falls through, the town would get the money back.

Chairman Roy states that he has hesitation because of the lack of access to the public. Mr. Kern stated that this island was a valuable habitat for the loons and the eagles, so it wasn't just about public access. Ms. Levergood asked if it would be worth going for a warrant article. Discussion ensues about the pros and cons of a warrant article. Mr. Kern stated that they would assist in preparing the warrant article if that was the direction they wanted to take. Ms. Smith stated that they had about \$65,000 in the conservation fund. She also stresses that it took years to build up to that. Mr. Roy stated that they did have other projects in mind that they would like to focus on in the next year, so maybe putting a warrant article out would allow them to contribute without draining they fund. Ms. Frost stated that she would help with the petition warrant article, and go to the public hearing as a representative for the

**Town of Northwood  
Conservation Commission Minutes  
January 3, 2017**

commission. The commission decides to take a vote on making a pledge of up to \$25,000 with the remainder possibly coming from a warrant article.

**Mr. Chase made a motion to appropriate up to 25,000 from the conservation land fund towards the Bennett Island project. Ms. Levergood seconds. Vote 4/2/0**

**Ms. Frost made a motion for the Northwood Conservation Commission to be referenced in a warrant article to support the Bennett island fund project. Mr. Roy seconds. Vote 6/0**

**INTERNAL BUSINESS:  
none**

**Mr. Roy makes a motion, second by Ms. Frost, to adjourn at 9:06 p.m. Motion passes unanimously; 6/0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Austin, Land Use Secretary

*Draft*