

**Town of Northwood
Conservation Commission Minutes
January 5, 2020**

Chair Levergood called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present:

Chair Grace Levergood, Vice-Chair Fred Borman, Wini Young, Tom Chase and Susan Romano

Town Staff present:

Linda Smith, Land Use Specialist and Susan Austin, Land Use assistant

MINUTES:

December 1, 2020

Chair Levergood made a motion to accept the minutes of December 1, with correction that do not affect the content of the minutes. Mr. Borman seconded. Motion carried by roll call vote 4/0/1 Mr. Chase abstained.

1. Consideration of Annual CC Review

Ms. Young stated that she sent out a list to the members. She stated that as a commission, they have so much going on and a lot of good things are happening, she thought that each year they could take a look at items that have a time and date set each year where the commission goes through long term commitments that the commission has. Chair Levergood stated that she thought that December would be good for something like that because that's when they would be working on the town report. Mr. Chase stated that he would like to include the various event that they hold throughout the year, for example the much-delayed presentation on Emerald Ash Borer that they had planned to have last year. Ms. Young stated that she would like the rest of the members to add anything else that might come to mind between now and the next meeting.

2. Potential Changes to ZBA Special Exception Review

Chair Levergood stated that Ms. Smith had sent out the checklist to the members earlier that day. Ms. Young stated that she would like to add some items to the checklist. Ms. Young stated that she wanted to add to their comments for instance if the project requires a Wetland permit or any other permits, etc. She would also like to add that the Conservation Commission members have permission to be on the land if they wanted to look at the site during the entire process, through Planning Board approval. She stated that the other point is completeness. It would be good if it is expected if necessary if the Commission can continue to comment through out the process. Ms. Romano pointed out a few points that were repetitive based on different permit processing. Ms. Smith stated that when someone comes in for a special exception application, sometimes its before the file an intent to cut, or a

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wetland permit. It depends on the Special Exception that they are applying for. To ask these questions in the initial stage for the purpose of the special exception may apply in some and not in others. But it might also help to trigger the need for different things. That was the intent of having what may seem like a repetitious list if you think of it in terms of in addition to another application. In the case of some of these this is the first initial step and they have not applied for the others. One way to have the permission to go on the land throughout the process would be to add to the special exception application permission for the Conservation Commission members. Not all special exception requests go to the Planning Board. Some are solely relief from the Zoning Board. Ms. Smith stated that a way to consolidate it would be to ask if the applicant has filed, where applicable, certain permits. They could also ask if the project would require certain permits. Mr. Borman stated that he has a binder that he could share with the group that has all of the BMP's and permit procedures in it called "Good Forestry in the Granite State". Ms. Romano suggested that they link a resource page with the Conservation Commission page. Ms. Young stated that she could add to the existing checklist, as well as a date of the last update so they know when it was updated last.

3. Annual CC Town Report

Chair Levergood will send this to Ms. Smith.

Boundary Markers

Ms. Smith stated that they have been ordered. Mr. Borman has sent the design to the members.

Trails Update

Mr. Borman stated that he had hoped to get back out to the trails that week.

Docko

Ms. Smith stated that they are on the ZBA agenda on January 25. The December Planning Board meeting was bumped to January 14th.

Motion to adjourn is accepted at 8:10 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Austin, Land Use Assistant