



**Town of
BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Conservation Commission

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Minutes

Tuesday, March 08, 2016

Conservation Commission

7:00 pm

Present: Francis (Buddy) Dougherty, Chairman
Jay Chrystal, Vice Chairman
Jordan Bailey, Member
Tom Rogers, Member
Brendan Denehy, Selectboard Representative
Drew Kellner, Alternate

Absent: Eric DiVirgilio, Alternate

Bobcat Ruling Discussion

Jordan said there was a petition that went around to all Conservation Commissions opposing this ruling. The Brookline Conservation Commission didn't do anything with the email and didn't sign it in opposition or take a stance that they are for this decision. It appears that the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions had been publicizing the fact that 32 Conservation Commissions in New Hampshire are opposed to the open bobcat season. We as a Conservation commission have taken a stance on this but it looks as though they have been publicizing that most of the Conservation Commissions are opposed. **Jordan** would like the Board permission to contact the NHACC and discuss this with them just to let them know they the Brookline Conservation Commission hasn't taken a stance. She would like to know why it seems they are promoting all the Conservation Commissions that are against it. **Jay** said NH Fish and Game have done the scientific research to set this in motion. **Jordan** said she just wanted to reach out to them to discuss this.

Trail Discussion

Drew said the connecting trail that will hook into Beaver Brook has been flagged they asked the private land owner if they could cut the trail through their property where the scenic overlook is. They declined. They will need to reflag this around there property and use the original route. **Tom** said this trail is close to being ready to start work. **Tom** said this trail will connect the Fessenden Trail to the Beaver Brook Tupilo Trail.

Cider Mill Trail Head

Tom said he would like to schedule a walk for this Sunday March 13, 2016. He said he will already be out there and would guide this hike. He will post the information on Facebook. The hike will be scheduled for 10:00am. He will be there to put up signs here

Buddy said they should also schedule a hike for this property in July and head to the rookery.

Tom said he was just out there and there are only 3 nest left.

Sargent Road Trail Parking

Tom said this area will need to be more defined.

River/Rail Trail Project Update

Drew said he spoke with Lelia (National Park Services) and she has requested the NH Landscape Architectural Groups service hopefully pro bono but if they don't offer she is wondering if the BCC has any funds available. Drew said he told her that they have not budgeted anything for this year. He also spoke with the Sunoco representative (the owner is in India) discussed the plan and the ideas for a parking area and he seemed supportive. He said he will need to contact the attorney.

Drew said he also just found out that Groton had just completed one of these projects and he will be going to meet with the Town Representative that headed this project. Drew said as far as the parking he believes there will need to be some engineering done. Buddy said he will reach out to Randy Haight with Meridian Land Services. Drew said he also informed Fire Chief Charlie Corey and let him know what they were planning and they will keep him informed on the progress.

Appointment/Reappointment of Members and Alternates

Buddy said Jay and Tom have terms that expire this year. Tom said he is willing to serve another term and Jay agreed he was as well. Jordan made a motion to recommend to the Selectboard that Jay Chrystal and Tom Rogers be appointed as full members of the Conservation Commission both terms expiring in March of 2018. Brendan seconded. Vote yes 5-0.

Brendan said he would also like to stay on as the Selectboard Representative for the next year.

Brookline Trail Riders

Ross Hutchinson (Hutchinson Hill Road) said Evan was not able to make tonight's meeting. They are here tonight to answer the Board's questions as best they can. Ross said they are the only neighborhood affected by the use of ATV's on this trail. There are about twenty of us in the neighborhood that have ATV's they also maintain the trails that they use. They have been maintaining the trails. Jordan asked how this group is publicized and how will this become available to the Town. Ross said word of mouth at this point and he said he thinks it will be open to town residents only at some point. Dave Seamonds said they also participated in the 4th of July Parades for the last two years. Drew said he believes that limiting access to Brookline Town Residents goes against the RSA that references the liability. Jay said the private residents can limit who can and cannot use their own property but he doesn't believe they can do that with Town Property. Tom said he walked it with Evan and there is a parking area for about 20 vehicles. They said they have reduced the trail to just the single connector trail which is about a mile long. When they were walking there was another single tract trail that goes out behind the foundation. Which is also being used. He would need more information about what trails they plan on using and where they are on the property exactly. Jordan agreed at the last meeting it was point to point access they were asking permission for. Drew said going forward they will need more information on limiting this to town's people only and what is covered liability. Tom said maps with GPS coordinates. Jay said they are not promising anything but this information will be needed if they are looking for a decision.

Planning Board Case NRSP# 2016-D: J-50, 21 Averill Road, Averill House Vineyard

Buddy said the Planning Board has passed along this Home business application for 21 Averill Road they plan to open a Vineyard. The Planning Board would like to know if we have any comments. Jay said there are no wet areas on this lot but there is a wetland around this lot. Buddy said the only comment he would suggest is that they use Best Management Practices. The board agreed.

Wild and Scenic Program Meeting

Jordan said she attended the meeting they are happy to have Brookline participate in this program as a nonvoting member but part of the study committee. **Jordan** said she will be able to attend the Monthly meetings as a Representative of Brookline.

Trail Discussion


Jordan said they had discussed being more involved with the opening and closing of the Brookline Trails in the winter. They should discuss this with the Ice breakers. She said she was out on the Rail Road bed and there are a lot of rail road ties that have been damaged by snowmobiles due to lack of snow. **Drew** said they should add this to a future meeting.

Non-Public

Jay made a motion to go into non-public session under RSA 91 A: II (d) for the discussion of possible land acquisition and immediately adjourn the meeting. **Brendan** seconded. Roll call vote **Buddy**, **Jay**, **Brendan**, **Tom**, and **Jordan** all voted yes.

Brendan made a motion to come out of non-public session and seal the minutes. **Tom** seconded. Roll call vote **Buddy**, **Jay**, **Brendan**, **Tom**, and **Jordan** all voted yes.

Tom made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 pm. **Jordan** seconded. Vote yes 5-0.

Francis (Buddy) Dougherty, Chairman, 

Jay Chrystal, Vice Chairman, 

Jordan Bailey, Member, 

Tom Rogers, Member, 

Brendan Denehy, Selectboard Representative 

Minutes submitted by Kristen Austin.

Next meeting will be held on April 12, 2016.

