

**Town of Chester
Conservation Commission
July 9, 2019
7:00 PM
Approved Minutes**

Present:

Chairman Victor Chouinard
Selectman Chuck Myette, Liaison
Kristina Snyder
Kathleen Neff Ragsdale
Ted Broadwater
Deb Munson

Absent:

Baron Richardson
Aaron Hume

Guests:

None

Call to Order:

Chairman Chouinard called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

Old Business

1. Review minutes – May 14, 2019 – Tabled

2. Review minutes – June 18, 2019

Line 23 was amended.

Ms. Snyder motioned to accept the June 18, 2019 minutes as amended. Mr. Broadwater seconded the motion. Mr. Myette and Ms. Munson abstained. Approved 4-0-2, so moved.

3. Treasurer's Report, Bills, Budget

Revenues have been received for timber harvesting off Bridle Path (not included in balance).

Mrs. Neff Ragsdale advised the following balances, with no new bills:

Conservation Fund Savings \$ 79,501.86

Forestry \$ 40,849.30

Lincoln Lane \$ 3,063.05

Emerson \$ 10,131.47

41 CD \$714,847.19 (renewed 6/26)

42 3. Subcommittee reports

43 A. Strategic Land Protection Committee -SLPC

44 There will be a special public hearing on July 23, 2019 to approve the purchase of the Currier
45 property – 33 acres in Chester and 2 acres of access in Sandown.

46 Chair Chouinard emailed solar companies to get more information. The company was not
47 interested in coming to a meeting but indicated they like to do 100-acre arrays and be near
48 transmission lines.

49 Chair Chouinard noted they walked the property off Norton Road which abuts town forest and
50 the Levenger property on Sunday (Tax Map/Lot 9-92).

51 Chair Chouinard has been discussing the Goldsmith properties.

52 B. Planning Board (Chuck)

53 C. Trails (Aaron) Tabled

54 D. Spring Hill Farm Advisory Committee (Chuck)

55 A representative from Conservation is needed on this Committee. Mr. Chouinard will write a
56 letter of recommendation for Mr. Broadwater, Ms. Snyder and himself.

57 F. Agricultural Commission (Chuck)

58 A representative from Conservation is needed on this Commission. Mrs. Neff Ragsdale
59 indicated she may be interested.

60 G. Regulations - Tabled

61 H. Grants – Trails Grant

62 I. Wason Pond Conservation & Recreation Commission

63 Mrs. Neff Ragsdale reported the barn repairs are scheduled for August. The Pavilion is being
64 designed and will be built in 2021. Engineering is going to the Board of Selectmen's meeting on
65 Thursday for approval to get started. Selectman D'Angelo noted parking issues with out of
66 towners and proposed an ordinance that would allow tickets to be issued by machine with no
67 charge to residents. The possibility of setting aside a parking area for residents only next year
68 will be discussed at the next BOS meeting.

69
70 Ms. Snyder will get on the agenda with the Board of Selectmen to be appointed as an additional
71 Conservation liaison. Ms. Snyder noted the public is concerned with the presence of beavers
72 indicated by debris being left under the bridge which she has been cleaning out. The situation
73 will be closely monitored and if necessary, a device can be installed. Other concerns were
74 unleashed dogs and dogs and horses in the water.

75

J. Easements, Monitoring and Stewardship

Mr. Chouinard reported he hasn't had a chance to do monitoring and wondered if this is something Mr. Sibley might be interested in assisting with.

Mr. Broadwater will get vests or sweatshirts with Conservation Commission lettering.

Non-Public Session pursuant to 91-A:3(II)(d) Consideration of the acquisition, sale, or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community

By Roll Call, Mrs. Neff Ragsdale motioned to go into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3(II)(d) consideration of the acquisition of real or personal property. Ms. Snyder seconded the motion, Mr. Myette abstained, approved 5-0-1, so moved.

The meeting room was closed to the public at 7:22 PM.

The meeting room was reopened to the public at 7:59 PM.

Mrs. Neff Ragsdale motioned to seal the minutes indefinitely. Mr. Broadwater seconded the motion, Chairman Myette abstained, approved 5-0-1, the motion passed.

New Business

Plan Reviews

1. Eric Mitchell for Pipit Estates

Eric Mitchell appeared at the last meeting on behalf of Pipit Estates development. The plan was changed to do individual wells and septic systems and will go back for Planning Board approval. The documents will be reviewed by the Town attorney when they are received and then posted at public meeting. Chair Chouinard will send an email to Mr. Mitchell.

Miscellaneous Business

1. Presentation

Ms. Snyder reported the biologist with Fish & Game will give a presentation at no cost concerning non-game animals and wildlife on July 24, 2019 at the MPR at 7:00 PM and there will be a raffle. Ms. Snyder noted flyers were handed out at the library, posted with the Union Leader and social media. Ms. Snyder will reach out to PACT.

Mr. Myette recommended having the Conservation maps to attract landowners.

Next meeting(s): Special Public Hearing – July 23, 2019

Regular Meeting – August 13, 2019

107 **Adjournment**

108

109 Mr. Broadwater motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Neff Ragsdale seconded the motion,
110 with all in favor, so moved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 PM.

111 Respectfully submitted,

112

113

114 Nancy Hoijer

115 Recording Secretary