

**Town of Chester  
Conservation Commission  
February 11, 2020  
7:00 PM  
Approved Minutes**

**Present:**

Chairman Victor Chouinard  
Deb Munson  
Kristina Snyder  
Ted Broadwater  
Aaron Hume

**Absent:**

Kathleen Neff Ragsdale  
Rick Sibley, Alternate  
Selectman Chuck Myette, Liaison  
Baron Richardson

**Guests:**

**Call to Order:**

Chairman Chouinard called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Request to setup a "bait site" on a town-owned parcel

The Board agreed to continue discussions at the next meeting.

2. 41 Harantis Lake Road – Wetland Setback issue

Chair Chouinard referenced an email he received from the Building Inspector concerning wetland setback.

Mr. Hazelton would need to seek relief from the ZBA for the paved area which is a dumpster pad considered a structure.

The Board indicated they had no objection.

**OLD BUSINESS**

3. Review Minutes – January 14, 2020

***Mr. Broadwater motioned to accept the January 14, 2020 minutes as amended. Ms. Munson seconded the motion. A vote was taken. Mr. Hume abstained. Approved 4-0-1.***

4. Subcommittee reports

A. Strategic Land Protection Committee – SLPC

Chair Chouinard indicated there has been no new activity to report.

B. Treasurer's Report

Chair Chouinard reported:

Conservation Account

Beginning Balance	\$ 40,519.06
Interest earned	30.92
Balance	\$ 40,549.98

Forestry Account

Beginning Balance	\$ 41,071.38
Interest earned	31.34
Balance	41,102.72

Lincoln Lane Account

Beginning Balance	\$ 3,079.70
Interest earned	2.35
Balance	3,082.05

Emerson

Beginning Balance	\$ 10,186.55
Interest earned	7.77
Balance	10,194.32

**Mr. Broadwater motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report, as stated. Ms. Snyder seconded the motion, with all in favor, so moved.**

Chair Chouinard added the operating budget which is \$954 has had \$1,355.79 expended.

**Mr. Broadwater motioned to approve the amended Treasurer's Report, as stated. Ms. Snyder seconded the motion, with all in favor, so moved.**

C. Spring Hill Farm Advisory Committee (Ms. Snyder)

Ms. Snyder reported the Committee reviewed Chair Emily Kunelius' draft of the Annual Report and she did a great job. RFP's for the high tunnel and haying are being entertained. The high tunnel needs some cleaning up but is otherwise in good shape. A Town Employee or Board member could use the high tunnel without the insurance requirement. The doorway is large enough for a tractor to pass through and the sides roll up for ventilation. Haying would be done with their own equipment.

Ms. Snyder indicated the handicapped accessibility issues for the house are being pursued. Mrs. LeBlanc is investigating options.

D. Agricultural Commission (Mrs. Neff Ragsdale)

84 E. Wason Pond Conservation & Recreation Commission (Ms. Snyder)

85 Ms. Snyder reported the Commission discussed parking by permit or sticker. The ADA ramp at  
86 the senior center is still on hold. Ms. Munson asked the reason for replacing it.

87 Ms. Snyder noted the Pavilion project was pushed off to next year. Beavers have not returned  
88 or been an issue.

89 F. Easements, Monitoring & Stewardship

90 Chair Chouinard indicated Lincoln Lane is scheduled for monitoring on March 15, 2020. The  
91 Lincoln Lane homeowners are enthusiastic about the monitoring and discussing the bridge  
92 project.

93 Chair Chouinard noted he received four reports and invoice for \$737 from RCCD for Wilson on  
94 Derry Road, the Scott Root Farm, Herrick Woods, Wason Pond and the Church property. The  
95 invoice can be paid from the general conservation fund.

96 G. Trails (Mr. Hume)

97 Mr. Hume indicated he was moving to a new software. All the towns he spoke with were fine  
98 with publishing the maps that have trails leading to other towns. Still reviewing the trails which  
99 lead to or cross private property.

100 **PLAN REVIEWS**

101 The Board looked at the plans being presented to the ZBA at the February 18, 2020 meeting for  
102 7 East Derry Road and Hart Roberts Road.

103 he application for a variance for East Derry Road is for one lot with 100' frontage, the location of  
104 the proposed dwelling is unknown. The majority of wetlands would be shifted to the parent lot  
105 rather than the newly created lot as shown in the previous proposal.

106 he application for a variance for Hart Roberts Road is for wetlands buffer of 50' where 75' are  
107 required. If approved, it would mostly likely go to the Planning Board for Site Plan Review  
108 regarding drainage structures and ask for recommendations from the Conservation  
109 Commission.

110 **MISCELLANEOUS**

111 Presentations

112 Ms. Munson indicated the Pollinator Pathways presentation is scheduled for March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at  
113 10:30 in the Selectmen's meeting room.

114 Ms. Snyder offered to help with the flyer and posting and recommended advertising in the Tri-  
115 Town.

116 Ms. Munson asked if there were capacity limits for the meeting room and possibly could move to  
117 the MPR if necessary. Other programs can be presented as a follow-up.

118 SNHPC – (Ms. Munson)

119 Ms. Munson attended the NH Fish & Game Wildlife ecology workshop with Rachel Stevens and  
120 passed around the guidebook. Chair Chouinard asked if they could get extra copies of the  
121 book. Ms. Munson will contact. Ms. Munson indicated the seminar discussed trails through  
122 habitats and having a corridor buffer. Layers on Granite GIS showed hot spots which are hard  
123 to show on maps but a great tool to assess our trails. Training sessions are being held and it  
124 would be great to have a training session here.

125 Small Business Fair (Ms. Snyder)

126 Ms. Snyder indicated the Small Business Fair is Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 from 10-3.  
127 Conservation participated last year and were well received. The trail maps were put out. Ms.  
128 Snyder will add the Pollinator Pathways information this year.

129 Correspondence

130 Ms. Snyder indicated she received a thank you for the donation to the non-game fund.

131 **Adjournment**

132 ***Mr. Broadwater motioned to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Snyder seconded the motion, with***  
133 ***all in favor, so moved.***

134 The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

135 Respectfully submitted,

136

137 Nancy Hoijer,  
138 Recording Secretary