

**Town of Chester  
Wason Pond Commission Meeting  
Monday, November 6, 2017  
Cable TV Meeting Room  
Approved Minutes**

**I. Call to Order ~ Open Meeting**

Chairman Myette called this meeting of the Wason Pond Conservation & Recreation Commission to order at 7:05 pm.

Members Present:

John Dalrymple  
Chris Hadik, Member at Large / Treasurer  
Leslie Hammond, Recreation Commission  
Kevin Kistler, Recreation Commission  
Chairman Chuck Myette/Conservation Commission  
Darrell Quinn, Alternate  
Herb Rowell, Alternate /Chester Seniors

Members Absent:

Dick Trask, Selectman Liaison

Members of the Public Present:

Russ Norman

**II. New Business**

1. Annual Budget process begins

Chairman Myette told the group that the annual budget process is beginning and that we are scheduled to be on the BOS agenda on February 1<sup>st</sup>. He asked that everyone start thinking about this, said the group would discuss whether it should go up or down for 2018. The CIP has to be completed by January 1<sup>st</sup>, so next meeting's discussion will be important to meet that deadline.

2. Kiosk Project

Chairman Myette got an email from Mr. Dunwoody saying that the project was done, but the maps aren't yet up. Mr. Dalrymple said the structure looks good and Chairman Myette said that we need a signature to sign off on the project so he wants to be sure that it's okay to do that. It was agreed that it is, and so it will be considered completed except for the maps.

3. Appointments

Chairman Myette urged those who have been appointed to see Town Clerk, Erin Newnan, to have their oaths sworn.

### III. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Hadik presented the Treasurer's Report. He explained that the budget currently has \$954 and no money has been spent since July 1<sup>st</sup>. He outlined the items in the budget, explaining that the items with \$1 allocated are line items just in case we need them. He went through each item in the budget and concluded by saying there is \$400 that is not spoken for at this time. It was suggested that we may want to start talking about cameras in the budget, and based on this suggestion there was a general conversation about the need for security and how to achieve that. The Recreation commission members were asked about whether that group had had any further discussion about carrying a person for security, perhaps a college student. Both Ms. Hammond and Mr. Kistler said this had not been explored further.

Chairman Myette asked if there were any further questions, and as there were none,

**Mr. Rowell moved to accept the Treasurer's Report; Mr. Dalrymple seconded the motion. The vote was seven in favor, motion carried.**

### IV. Approval of Minutes from October 2017

Chairman Myette asked if there were any changes or questions about the minutes as written.

There were a number of corrections, noted as follows:

Mr. Kistler asked about the wedding incident and wanted the minutes to be corrected to make clear that there was no permit of any kind whatsoever for the event. No one ever contacted Recreation Director Corinna Reishus about a permit, the first she heard of it was when the PD contacted her the next day.

On Line 33 there is a typo ~ the word 'is' needs to be removed.

On Line 172 the item being referenced is a *warrant document* not a *warren document*

Before the minutes were approved there was additional discussion about replacing or repairing the signs. Chairman Myette said the posts are fine but the plastic has faded. It was generally agreed that they should either be repaired or replaced as they are not in great shape at this time and are somewhat difficult to see.

Mr. Quinn said he had given BOS AA Doda a map to put on the website which shows the two bridges that were just repaired and replaced. This is great because if someone has a smart phone they can pull it up on their phone and see where they are.

Chairman Myette asked if anyone is interested in taking on the signs project. Mr. Quinn agreed to help with that, suggesting that perhaps we should use Lexan rather than plastic, which yellows. He will get the cost for both and present the information at the next meeting.

Treasurer Hadik asked what we would do about the signs where maps are missing entirely. Mr. Quinn explained that he had used the map sent to him by Chairman Myette. While the resolution isn't super fine, if we agree that the current map is good enough, we could add "you are here" to the various signs, and print them, plastic coat them and then put them behind Lexan. Treasurer

Hadik asked that once the maps were developed they be shared as well as saved, so we have them for the future.

**Mr. Hadik moved to accept the minutes with changes as noted; Mr. Rowell seconded the motion. The vote was six in favor with Mr. Kistler abstaining; motion carried.**

## **V. Recreation Commission Updates**

Ms. Hammond provided an update from the Recreation Commission. She explained that the field work should be done this year, but is being held off until the ground is hard and frozen, so less material is lost when it's done. A landscaper has volunteered his services, and there's no set date at this time.

Ms. Hammond said soccer wrapped up on Saturday and when Chairman Myette asked how the turf was, Mr. Kistler said it was much better this year than last.

Ms. Hammond shared the CIP scoring form and said she would provide an electronic copy to Chairman Myette.

Ms. Hammond told the group that the BOS at their meeting had signed off on money for portable nets, which is a large expense at \$6K, so next fall there will be nets that are portable. This will allow the field to be a regulation field. The hope is that this will allow the junior high teams to play over there so the field at Nichols can have some time to rest. During the season it is used six hours a day, six days a week, and it's in bad shape as a result.

Ms. Hammond explained that no bond or fundraising was required for the portable net expense. It had been set up as part of the Field of Dreams plan. They do come apart and the current plan is to store them in the barn in the off season. There was some discussion about whether there would be space in the barn for them, but as this is something in the future, there was no final agreement about this matter.

## **VI. Conservation Commission Updates**

Nothing to report.

## **VII. Miscellaneous**

Scout Kiosk is just about done.

### **1. Security cameras**

There was a discussion about having a caretaker, a security person or even doing nothing.

a. It was agreed that Selectman Trask would provide information at the next meeting and also that Treasurer Hadik would check with a consultant on the costs of the power/cameras.

b. The barn siding has been cut. There was a lengthy discussion about where to store the siding now that it's been cut. There were concerns about it being stolen and / or damaged in the weather once it's delivered. It was generally agreed that there should be a volunteer day to move it, and put it up, that the landscaping trailer could probably be used to move it. No final decision was made about when

this would happen, or if it would be a volunteer day, but a request will be submitted to Recreation Director Reishus to see if the maintenance crew can handle moving (and potentially installation of the siding) or not.

2. Tree and Trail Clearing

a. There was a question about whether Maintenance Supervisor Tony Amato can clear trees that fell in the recent storm. It was agreed that clearing a tree that has fallen and is blocking the trail or is a safety hazard is acceptable. What is not acceptable is clearing trees that are standing without approval. Selectman Trask could provide more concrete guidance at the next meeting.

3. Bleacher Storage

a. Mr. Rowell noted that the last time he looked, the bleachers were stored in the barn. Ms. Hammond explained that the new floor is laminate and the bleachers weren't able to be put back or the floor would be damaged. They were stored in the barn because no one wanted to throw them away. Given the amount of space they are taking, and the fact that they may not be able to be used for anything, someone needs to decide whether to throw them away and/or where to store them if they are saved. They are taking up a lot of space in the barn as it is (and so would potentially preclude, for instance storing the barn siding in there, even if that was desired).

4. Gazebo vs Pavilion

a. There were some photos shared to look at various options / choices. The major question continues to be what is the intended function of this structure? Should it be decorative or rustic? Should it be basic post and beam with a roof or something else? Either way, the goal is to replace the tent that is put up during the summer. Its function is to provide a place for picnics, with tables, eventually and for people to get out of the sun and weather. Some structures that have been explored would match the covered bridge and be more functional than ornate. There was discussion about how much use the structure would get, the size it should be, and the design.

b. Chairman Myette suggested, after discussion that a decision be made about whether it's a fancy gazebo or a straightforward pavilion. The group opted for a simple, timber framed pavilion, with ends similar to the covered bridge.

c. There was then discussion about the roof and it was agreed that metal, green, maybe standing seam would be best.

d. There was a lot of conversation about whether there should be a foundation and the type of flooring.

e. It was agreed that the next steps would be:

- There's no huge rush, the tent works well.
- It's in the rec plan for whenever the group has decided.
- Chairman Myette will explore having Joel see what he can come up with as a design. Timber Framers may be able to do the engineering, but also asked if anyone knows of any contractors that they pass names along. We may need to bid the job out if it's going to cost over a certain amount.
- Next steps will be for Chairman Myette to get information together for the group to review when it's ready.

## **VIII. Adjournment**

Chairman Myette asked if there were any other items to discuss. There were none.

The next meeting of the Wason Pond Commission will be scheduled for December 4, 2017.

**Mr. Quinn moved to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Rowell seconded. The vote was seven in favor; motion carried.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lys Miller-Drake, Recording Secretary  
(edited by Nancy Hoijer)