

WASON POND CONSERVATION & RECREATION COMMISSION

May 3, 2021

Approved Minutes

7:00 PM

Members present (remotely):

Chris Hadik, Chairman
Corinna Reishus
Sandy Wright
Kristina Snyder
Kathleen Neff Ragsdale
Chuck Myette, Selectmen's Liaison
John Dalrymple, Alternate

Members absent:

David Webster
Darrell Quinn, Alternate

Guest:

Ranger John Wright

1. Open Meeting – New Business

Chairman Hadik called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

a. Treasurer's Report

Ms. Neff Ragsdale reported expenses for the caretaker's cottage of \$40.58 in electricity usage and the bathhouse had \$16.21 in electricity usage for total expenditures of \$56.79. This leaves roughly 65.18% of the \$1,065.65 budget.

Ms. Wright moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Ms. Snyder seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor except Selectman Myette, who abstained. The motion passed.

b. Approval of Minutes – April 5, 2021

Ms. Neff Ragsdale moved to approve the April 5, 2021 minutes as presented. Ms. Wright seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor. The motion passed.

c. Unleashed dogs at Wason Pond

The Commission discussed the email from Chief Berube regarding the RSA the Town has adopted regarding unleashed dogs at Wason Pond. The Commission feels that the language used in the RSA is not clear, and they did not see a specific requirement for a dog to be leashed. It is a rule at Wason Pond, but that does not mean it is automatically an ordinance. Mr. Wright will ask the Chief regarding the leash issue. Chairman Hadik will ask Ms. Doda to contact Town Counsel regarding the definition of "at large" and if the Wason Pond rule regarding leashing

dogs is enforceable. Mr. Wright is not citing people who do not have their dogs on a leash, he is just warning them at this point. If a citation is needed, he will contact the Police Department.

Someone has removed the "No Pets on Field" signs from the fields, but they have been replaced. The temporary ones seem to be working, as Ms. Reishus is trying to avoid posting more metal signs.

2. Selectmen's Liaison

a. Update

Selectman Myette said there were no relevant issues or discussions.

3. Recreation Commission

a. Fishing Derby June 5th

The 19th Annual Kids Fishing Derby will be on June 5th. The Police Department will help. Ms. Reishus has paid for the fish and the State will match. She will post No Fishing signs once the fish are delivered.

b. Summer Program

The Summer Program will run for five weeks. Ms. Reishus will follow state and CDC guidance.

c. Wason Pond Pounder

The Pounder has been postponed to Saturday, May 21st, 2022.

d. Fields open for individual and approved group use

The Board of Selectmen has released the fields for group usage.

Ms. Reishus has a New Hampshire Parks and Rec conference this week to learn how the new guidance impacts the use of the fields.

e. Playground currently open

The portables have been placed at the playground. The beach portable will be placed before Memorial Day weekend.

f. Community Center

Selectman Myette said the seniors do not want to open the Senior Center yet. It was approved for the ramp, but he hasn't heard if they have the final design yet.

4. Conservation Commission

a. Beaver update

Ms. Snyder said the pond is level on both sides. She and Mr. Chouinard will clean debris from around the cage later this month.

b. Receptacle for fishing line at bridge. Chester R&G sponsor.

Two receptacles have been installed. Fish & Game posted pictures of the installation on their Facebook page. People have expressed interest in having receptacles installed in other fishing areas. It has been a very positive experience and appears to be successful. Time will tell if they are used as intended. The Conservation Commission's Facebook page received a number of positive comments and thank yous regarding the receptacles. Mr. Wright said fishermen are reminding each other to use the receptacles as well. The fishing line collected in the receptacles will be recycled and reused.

5. Ranger John Wright

a. Guest Book

Mr. Wright reported that a woman asked if she could place a guest book in a box on a bench for visitors to sign. The Commission thought it would be interesting to see where people are coming from, and that could be posted on Facebook. There was a guest book last year and children posted how much they enjoy Wason Pond, which could be posted to Facebook and is a nice way to spread the word about the facility. Mr. Wright will make sure nothing else is left in the box.

6. Master Plan – Projects

a. Pavilion

Chairman Hadik said they have the stamped plans, which have been sent to Mr. Bunker. The Commission is waiting for his feedback. Selectman Myette suggested putting together an ad hoc committee to discuss the educational aspect of the timber framing process, as well as sourcing materials, i.e., any thinning that might need to be done on the property to harvest lumber and have it milled for no cost, or donations from companies. There are experienced timber framers interested in working on it. Ms. Neff Ragsdale feels a committee will promote community buy-in.

Selectman Myette is willing to help, and will reach out to the CTE program at Pinkerton to see if there is someone in the Forestry program who might be interested in leading or being a part of a committee. Chairman Hadik will ask Mr. Quinn if he is interested in being involved. An announcement about the committee will be posted on the Town website and the Wason Pond Facebook page.

7. Miscellaneous

a. Pedestrian traffic count (Madeleine Dilonno – July 2021)

Chairman Hadik will contact Ms. Dilonno to see if they can get a July count.

b. ADA Compliance ramp status?

Ms. Reishus spoke with Town Administrator Doda. They are waiting on architectural stamped drawings that are required by the building inspector, as well as certification of the parking lot. Ms. Reishus will follow up on this.

c. Alex Brillhart Eagle Scout project.

Selectman Myette reported that Mr. Brillhart is continuing to pursue this project. No wetlands permit is needed and he has a design. The actual work will begin in a couple of months. Mr. Brillhart is presenting it to the Council this week. He will start raising money as soon as possible. He is doing something like a GoFundMe page. Selectman Myette has signed a document saying the Town is accepting the project, representing the Selectmen. Ms. Reishus said there is a risk management form that needs to be signed by volunteers over 18 years of age. Selectman Myette will ask Mr. Brillhart and his Boy Scout leader to attend the next meeting to update the Commission and discuss any documents that need to be signed.

8. Adjournment and set date for next meeting (Monday, June 7, 2021)

Ms. Reishus moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 PM. Ms. Snyder seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, and the motion passed unanimously.

**Respectfully submitted,
Beth Hanggeli, Recording Secretary**