

WASON POND CONSERVATION & RECREATION COMMISSION

January 3, 2022

Approved Minutes

7:00 PM

Members present:

Chris Hadik, Chairman
Kathleen Neff Ragsdale, Treasurer
Sandy Wright
Kristina Snyder
Kathy Dircks
Darrell Quinn, Alternate
John Dalrymple, Alternate

Members absent:

David Webster
Chuck Myette, Selectmen's Liaison

Guests:

Ranger John Wright
Chester PACT

1. Open Meeting – New Business

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

a. Treasurer's Report

Ms. Neff Ragsdale reported \$39.98 in electricity use for the caretaker's cottage and a credit of \$5.43 for the bathhouse, for a total of \$34.55. Total expenditures for the year are \$5,511.57, which is over budget by \$3,876.57, due to the emergency expenditure for the closure of the Causeway (Ash Street) Bridge of \$5,118.54.

Ms. Wright moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Ms. Dircks seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Approval of Minutes – December 3, 2021

Mr. Quinn moved to approve the December 3, 2021 minutes as written. Ms. Dircks seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Annual Report (due January 21st)

The Commission members discussed the Annual Report that Ms. Neff Ragsdale compiled, and suggested changes. The report is due on January 22nd, so changes can be made until then. The Commission members thanked Ms. Neff Ragsdale for her work on the report.

2. Selectmen's Liaison

a. Update on Ash St. Bridge

Selectman Myette was not present at the meeting. He asked Chairman Hadik to report that the ADA ramp has been started but is not completed. There have been no meetings on the pavilion

due to the uncertainty, although he would like to move ahead with the project. The Ash Street Bridge will most likely not be constructed in 2022, between design and funding.

3. Recreation Commission

a. Update

Ms. Dircks reported the Recreation Commission's next meeting is January 10th, if any WPC members want to attend to discuss the Spring Hill Farm Winter Fest.

She suggested that goats might be a good solution to eradicate the bittersweet, but they will eat more than just the undesirable plants.

The Winter Scavenger hunt is ongoing on the property.

4. Conservation Commission

a. Ash Street Bridge update

Ms. Neff Ragsdale reported that as of December 14th, the town engineer's report indicated the cost of the feasibility and design study to replace the bridge would be \$125,000, of which \$40,000 was for feasibility. The oversight of the construction would be \$375,000. There are funds in the CIP and they are looking for impact fees and grant money to help cover these costs.

b. Milkweed and pollinator project location

Ms. Neff Ragsdale said she and Ms. Snyder are having a Zoom meeting with Deb Munson and members of the Conservation Commission and possibly the Spring Hill Farm Advisory Committee on Wednesday to discuss pollinator projects.

5. Ranger John Wright

a. Update

Mr. Wright discussed the leash ordinance. He has cleared with the Police Department that he can take pictures of dogs off leash and note the license plate number and a description of the car to track repeat offenders. He has been giving out warnings and warning repeat offenders that they will be fined. There are not many people walking dogs on the property due to the shortness of the days.

6. Master Plan – Projects

a. Pavilion

Selectman Myette would like to see the project completed in 2022. The Commission members discussed the feasibility of cutting timbers now and ways to get concrete to the site.

7. Miscellaneous

a. Firemen's Muster in 2022

Chairman Hadik reported they are still hoping to have a Fireman's Muster in August as part of the 300th anniversary celebration, but it hasn't been confirmed by the Fire Department. Mr. Costine is still working on it.

b. ADA Compliance ramp status

The ramp has been completed, but it is still roped off. Mr. Quinn is concerned that one of the footings has been placed over the location of the old dug well that was filled in. Chairman Hadik said it was built to code, including placement of the footings. The engineer has to sign off on the ramp and the building inspector has to approve it. There are a couple of boards that need

100 to be replaced in the existing wood deck before it will be approved. The seniors are still not
102 meeting at the Community Center.

104 **8. Adjournment and set date for next meeting (Monday, February 7, 2022)**

106 *Ms. Wright moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 PM. Ms. Dircks seconded the motion. A
vote was taken, all were in favor, and the motion passed unanimously.*

108 Respectfully submitted,
Beth Hanggeli, Recording Secretary
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