

WASON POND CONSERVATION & RECREATION COMMISSION

July 11, 2022

Approved Minutes

7:00 PM

Members present:

Chris Hadik, Chairman
Kristina Snyder
Sandy Wright
Darrell Quinn, Alternate

Members absent:

David Webster
Kathy Dircks
Kathleen Neff Ragsdale, Treasurer
John Dalrymple, Alternate
Chuck Myette, Selectmen's Liaison

Guests:

Ranger John Wright

1. Open Meeting – New Business

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

a. Treasurer's Report

In Ms. Neff Ragsdale's absence, Chairman Hadik reported \$36.31 in electricity use for the caretaker's cottage (\$49.91 remaining in budget) and \$16.21 for the bathhouse electricity (\$6.28 remaining in budget), for a total of \$52.52. The account balance is -\$4,202.70, owing to the public safety emergency (closure of the Causeway [Ash Street] Bridge of \$5,118.54).

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

b. Approval of Minutes – June 6, 2022

Mr. Quinn moved to approve the June 6, 2022 minutes as written. Ms. Wright seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Discussion on future of caretaker's cottage

Commission members toured the caretaker's cottage and outbuildings. It was noted that the windowsill in the cottage bathroom needs to be replaced to prevent water entering the building. Otherwise, it appeared in good shape, mainly in need of cleaning and removal of old appliances. As it is not ADA compliant, it cannot be open to public use. The outbuildings are currently used by the Recreation summer program. Possible ideas for how to use the cottage will be discussed at the next meeting.

d. Beach sand

Selectman Myette was not present, but Chairman Hadik read an email from him regarding

replacing the sand on the beach. He suggested ordering sand through the Town Maintenance Department. Mr. Quinn pointed out he believes it needs to be a special kind of sand and must be approved. The cost of replenishing the beach sand was removed from the WPC budget request. Mr. Hadik will speak with the Maintenance Department and work on a quote, so the item can be placed in the budget again next year.

2. Selectmen's Liaison

a. Update on Ash Street bridge

Selectman Myette was not present, but he sent a report that engineering work is being done on the bridge replacement project.

3. Recreation Commission

Chairman Hadik shared a report from Recreation Director Reishus.

a. Firemen's Muster

The poles have been set for the muster, which is scheduled for July 23rd.

b. 300th Anniversary Celebration 5K Race

The 300th Anniversary Celebration 5K race is scheduled for July 23rd.

c. Water test

The water at Wason Pond was tested on June 27 and the certificate is posted on the Wason Pond page of the Town website.

d. Use of Wason Pond buildings

Ms. Reishus reported on the various groups that use the buildings at Wason Pond. There is no water in the art room, as the water pump issue still needs to be resolved. There are impact fees to pay for this project.

e. Portable use

Due to the restrictions of the Causeway Bridge, the portable toilets cannot be located at the beach. Beachgoers have been using the woods instead of walking across the bridge to access the portables.

4. Conservation Commission

a. Beaver update

Ms. Snyder reported that she and Mr. Chouinard have been cleaning out the culvert 1-2 times a week. There is very little water flow, so the beavers aren't really building right now.

b. Milkweed and pollinator project location

Ms. Snyder reported that Ms. Munson from the Conservation Commission has been planting and tending to native pollinator plants next to the Senior Center.

c. Sensitive wetland crossing

Chairman Hadik reported there doesn't appear to be any recent activity of people trying to rebuild the makeshift bridge across the wetland.

5. Ranger John Wright

a. Update

Mr. Wright reported there is no signage, so he is dealing with issues with dogs being off-leash on the beach. He has been sending dog owners to other locations on the pond.

6. Master Plan - Projects

a. Pavilion

Chairman Hadik reported there is no change on the pavilion project, as it is awaiting construction of the bridge.

7. Miscellaneous

8. Adjournment and set date for next meeting (Monday, August 1, 2022)

Mr. Quinn moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 PM. Ms. Wright seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Hanggeli, Recording Secretary