

WASON POND CONSERVATION & RECREATION COMMISSION

September 12, 2022

Approved Minutes

7:00 PM

Members present:

David Webster, Vice Chairman
Kathleen Neff Ragsdale, Treasurer
Kristina Snyder
Sandy Wright
Kathy Dircks
Darrell Quinn, Alternate
John Dalrymple, Alternate

Members absent:

Chris Hadik, Chairman
Chuck Myette, Selectmen's Liaison

Guests:

Ranger Wright
Benjamin Wallin, Eagle Scout Candidate
Scoutmaster

1. Open Meeting – New Business

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

a. Treasurer's Report

Ms. Neff Ragsdale reported \$63.84 in electricity expense for the caretaker's cottage in August and \$16.37 in electricity expense for the bathhouse. The account balance is \$1,127.58, or 91.9% of budget.

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

b. Approval of Minutes – August 1, 2022

Mr. Quinn moved to approve the August 1, 2022 minutes as written. Ms. Dircks seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor except Ms. Wright, who abstained. The motion passed 6-0-1.

c. Benjamin Wallin – Eagle Scout project

Mr. Wallin revised his proposal according to the Commission's suggestions and passed out drawings of the new design. Information from the existing sign will be transferred to the new sign. It is larger, so will not be as cluttered as the current one. The Commission noted that this is a great improvement over the current sign. He plans to start as soon as possible. Ms. Snyder will contact the Rockingham County Conservation District (RCCD) to give them a heads-up that the kiosk is being replaced.

Ms. Snyder moved to approve the final design, with a contingency that construction does not move forward until approval is obtained from RCCD. Ms. Wright seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor except Mr. Quinn, who abstained. The motion passed 6-0-1.

e. Beach sand (type and cost)

The Commission noted that it is late in the season, so this issue should be addressed in the spring. They discussed using materials from the property to rebuild the beach and erosion points. Dealing with erosion points will be addressed at the next meeting.

2. Selectmen's Liaison

a. Update

Selectman Myette was not present to give an update. In an email, he reported that the engineering has started on the causeway bridge and test borings have been completed. There is good gravel located at a shallow depth, meaning less costly footings and foundation. The engineer would like to meet with the Commission to select the bridge style/look. This topic will be on next month's agenda.

3. Recreation Commission

Ms. Dircks reported that soccer is ongoing. Walking the trails has begun again on Monday mornings.

Mr. Webster said the playground is clean and functional. The rain has helped the water quality. He spoke with Colin from the Trustee Committee, who reported that the forest is encroaching on the fields behind the backstop by two feet every year. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Ms. Dircks said a new group is interested in taking over the Pounder and has met with the TRC. The Commission will need to decide if the barn will be used to store the Pounder materials. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Ms. Dircks explained that there is funding to replace the condemned pumphouse. However, there is a tangle of water pipes underground that used to go to the campsites that has to be dealt with. Heavy equipment cannot cross the bridge, so this project will have to wait until bridge is safe to cross.

4. Conservation Commission

a. Beaver update

Ms. Snyder reported that due to the drought, there has been no flow, so there has been little beaver activity as a result. The beavers are starting to get active again.

b. Milkweed and pollinator project location

Ms. Snyder reported that Ms. Deb Munson has planted more plants in the pollinator garden near the Senior Center. She asked permission to erect a sign explaining the pollinator project next spring.

5. Ranger John Wright

a. Update

Ranger Wright reported that he has not seen any dogs off leash and the geese are gone. He said the property has been very quiet. There has been a lot of foot traffic. Mr. Quinn reported the water was tested again and the numbers are down. Mr. Webster hasn't seen many fishermen.

100

6. Master Plan - Projects

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a. Pavilion

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Vice Chairman Webster reported the pavilion is on hold until Recreation moves forward with the project.

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7. Adjournment and set date for next meeting (Monday, October 3, 2022)

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Mr. Quinn moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 PM. Ms. Wright seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, and the motion passed unanimously.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Beth Hanggeli, Recording Secretary