

WASON POND CONSERVATION & RECREATION COMMISSION

April 3, 2023

Approved Minutes

7:00 PM

Broadcast on Channel 20 and streamed on Government (cablecast.tv) – click “Watch Now”

Members present:

Chris Hadik, Chairman

Kristina Snyder

Kathy Dircks

Sandy Wright

John Dalrymple, Alternate

Darrell Quinn, Alternate

Members absent:

David Webster, Vice Chairman

Kathleen Neff Ragsdale, Treasurer

Chuck Myette, Board of Selectmen Representative

Guests:

PACT

1. Open Meeting – New Business

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

a. Treasurer’s Report

In Ms. Neff Ragsdale's absence, Chairman Hadik reported \$52.36 in electricity expense for the caretaker’s cottage and \$38.17 in electricity expense for the bathhouse for the month of February, for a total of \$90.53. This leaves an available balance of \$2,311.68, or 80.35% of the annual budget.

Ms. Dircks 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 – March 6, 2023

Ms. Snyder moved to approve the March 6, 2023 minutes as written. Ms. Snyder seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor except Ms. Wright, Mr. Quinn, and Mr. Dalrymple, who abstained. The motion passed 3-0-3.

2. Selectmen’s Liaison - update

Selectman Myette was not present, so there was no update.

3. Recreation Commission

a. Update

Ms. Dircks reported the dinosaur has been installed in the playground. The portable toilets are being delivered. The fields have not been released to be used yet.

b. 5K and Pig Roast on June 10, 2023

Ms. Dircks reported the 5K and Pig Roast has been cancelled.

c. Wason Pond Wrangler May 20, 2023

Ms. Dircks reported the Wrangler is scheduled to occur on May 20, 2023 at Wason Pond.

Chairman Hadik reported the group met with the TRC in September for approval. The Commission discussed what charities the race is contributing to.

4. Conservation Commission

a. Habitat restoration (treatment of invasives) update

Ms. Snyder reported she contacted Mr. Tranquillo from the Conservation Commission, who had no update on the treatment of the invasives. It has been approved by the Recreation Committee and the Board of Selectmen.

5. Ranger John Wright

Ranger Wright reported he will begin patrolling the property in the next couple of weeks. There are still trees blocking the trails but the ground is muddy and icy, so it is difficult to get equipment onto the property.

6. Master Plan - Projects

a. Pavilion

Chairman Hadik said this project is still on hold. The Commission discussed moving the Pavilion to the site of the caretaker's cottage, but this does not appear to be allowed.

7. Miscellaneous - Old Business

a. Beach Sand Replenishment

Chairman Hadik reported the permit has been signed by the Town and the Conservation Commission. Mr. Dalrymple will discuss obtaining and transporting 10 yards of sand with Supervisor of Roads Piper.

b. Forest encroachment of field

Mr. Dalrymple said there is money in the maintenance budget to cover cutting the brush. Ms. Snyder will find out when the invasives will be treated, so the brush can be cut before this occurs.

c. Ash Street Bridge

Chairman Hadik reported the bridge replacement plans are well underway, with funding available. Stormwater management and safety are paramount.

d. Removal of downed trees

Mr. Dalrymple said no progress has been made removing the tree on the garage, as there is too much ice and snow to bring the crane onto the property. As soon as the ground is dry, this will be taken care of. Insurance will cover the cost of removing the tree and repairing the damage to the garage, which is minimal. He can get a quote from the same contractor to remove the trees on the trails.

The Committee discussed the hemlocks dying near the playground. Mr. Dalrymple will speak with Mr. Piper about removing them.

e. Caretaker's Cottage

Chairman Hadik will review the easement to see what is allowed to occur on the property.

f. Road Grading

Mr. Dalrymple reported the Highway Department will be grading the dirt roads to the parking area soon.

g. Handicapped Parking Sign

Mr. Dalrymple reported a handicapped parking sign has been installed by the playground gate.

8. Adjournment and set date for next meeting (Monday, May 1, 2023)

Ms. Snyder moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Dircks seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, and the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Hanggeli, Recording Secretary