

HILLSBOROUGH CONSERVATION COMMISSION

June 13, 2023 – 7:00 PM

Approved Minutes

Held at Police Station Training Room

Chair Head called the Hillsborough Conservation Commission (HCC) meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

Members present: Richard Head, Chair; James McDonough, Vice Chair; Terry Yeaton.

Also attending: John P. Segedy, Recording Secretary & Alternate; Wayne Morrill, Jones Beach Engineering; Dr. Rick Van de Poll, Ecosystem Management Consultants (Via Video); Jim Riddle.

VISITOR BUSINESS

a. Wayne Morrill, Jones Beach Engineering, Beard Brook Realty, LLC

Mr. Morrill addressed the Commission regarding property on Antrim Rd. (M 11L, L 311) which had previously been worked on in 2017 as a potential Walmart site that never came to fruition. He noted that the Wetland Permit and Alteration of Terrain Permit had been extended. As part of those permits there was to be a Conservation Easement of 96.69 acres granted to the town/Conservation Commission that they want to finalize so they can proceed with wetland filling of 2.27 acres on the site. He reported that while there is currently no development plan they still are planning on moving forward preparing the site. He will be sending a copy of the proposed easement for the HCC to review. He also mentioned that the ARM fee of \$109,024 had been paid to the state (NH) and that erosion control from the logging that took place is still in place. Monuments are in place at all corners. Richard Head asked about the marking of the easement per HCC standards. He will forward the standards to Mr. Morrill. John Segedy will check on the HCC's supply of boundary markers. James McDonough asked about walking the easement. Mr. Morrill said they were welcome to do so anytime but that it might be difficult due to the brush that has grown up.

b. Dr. Rick Van de Poll, Ecosystem Management Consultants (Via Video)

Chair Head introduced Mr. Van de Poll and reviewed the map he had previously provided. Dr. Mr. Van de Poll described the map as Phase II of his project identifying "High Value Wetlands" He explained the study was a follow up to the 2005-2009 wetland study provided to the town by Antioch students which had identified 32 wetland complexes. He noted that the state's rules regarding identifying "Prime Wetlands" has led in recent years to towns identifying "High value wetlands". Dr. Van de Poll reported he had identified a further 17 secondary wetlands besides the 32 prior ones. He explained that the 3rd and final part of his study will include breaking each of the 32 areas down by soil types and characteristics. It will also provide a point ranking system that he had developed for all of the parcels. In answer to a question from Roger Shamel, Dr. Van de Poll said he anticipated completing the final part of the project around the end of July. He will be providing 2 maps for each of the 32 areas as well as 2 large maps. He noted that the previously provided map was just a draft. Chair Head noted that a potential use of this project was to help the HCC when they provide comments to the Planning and Zoning Boards on specific projects. Dr. Van de Poll noted that some towns print and laminate the maps for public viewing and that PDF versions can be provided on web site's. The HCC discussed buffers and their values being included in the report. While it was noted that different areas might have different buffer sizes needed, Dr. Van de Poll mentioned that most towns found it easier to have one number/size.

Roger Shamel moved: *To authorize the payment of \$2,133.33 to Ecosystem Management Consultants for the second part of their study.*

James McDonough seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

c. Jim Riddle

Jim Riddle introduced himself and said he would consider serving on the Commission. He will observe another meeting before making a decision.

MINUTES

a. May 23, 2023

Roger Shamel moved: *To approve the minutes of May 23, 2023.*

James McDonough seconded. Motion Passed 4-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

a. NH Lakes Association – Quarterly publication and request for annual bills payment.

Roger Shamel moved: *To authorize the payment of \$300 to NH Lakes Association.*

James McDonough seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

b. New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions (NHACC) – E-mail.

Request for feedback in preparation for their comments to DES regarding proposed Wetland Rule changes. - Tabled.

c. Jeff Pelletier – Intent to Cut, Beard Road (M 8, L 121 & 100).

d. NHPDIP (NH Public Deposit Investment Pool) – Account balance \$193,202.76.

e. Town of Hillsborough – Request for Capital Improvement information. Tabled.

f. Department of Environmental Services (DES) – Complete Seasonal Dock

Notification, Dunklee Road (M 5, L 21).

g. William Lambert, Beard Road LLC – Intent to Cut, Beard Road (M 11, L 50-5 & 6).

OLD BUSINESS

a. Confluence Trail - West Main St. (M 11K, L 330-1). Richard Head will check with wetland scientist.

b. 5 Rivers Conservation Trust - Terry Yeaton reported he had attended the workshop and that the project was basically a regional NRI.

c. Contoocook and North Branch Rivers Local Advisory Committee – Dues contribution - tabled

NEW/OTHER BUSINESS

a. Terry Yeaton reported Wood Turtles were laying eggs.

ADJOURNMENT

Roger Shamel moved: *To adjourn.*

James McDonough seconded. Motion Passed 4-0 at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

John P. Segedy
Recording Secretary
Approved June 27, 2023