



TOWN OF HUDSON

Conservation Commission



William Collins, Chairman Dave Morin, Selectmen Liaison

12 School Street • Hudson, New Hampshire 03051 • Tel: 603-886-6008 • Fax: 603-816-1291

DATE: August 12, 2024

MEETING MINUTES: Below is a listing of minutes for the Hudson Conservation Commission. Minutes are not a verbatim record of each meeting, but rather represent a summary of the discussion and actions taken at the meeting. All Conservation Commission meetings are televised live and repeated during the following week on HCTV, cable television channel 22. Official copies of the minutes are available to read and copy at the Town Engineer's Office during regular business hours (Monday through Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.).

Should you have any questions concerning these minutes or wish to see the original recording, please contact the Town Engineer's Office at 603-886-6008.

In attendance = X Alternates Seated = S Partial Attendance = P Excused Absence = E

William Collins
Chairman X

Carl Murphy
Vice-Chair E

Ken Dickinson
Clerk X (arrived 7:03)

Brian Pinsonneault
Member X

John Walter
Member X

Linda Krisciunas
Alternate X

David Morin
Selectman Rep P (arrived 8:15)

Elvis Dhima
Town Engineer X

Chris Cameron
Alternate X

CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRPERSON AT 07:01 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

SEATING OF ALTERNATES:

Linda Krisciunas was seated for Mr. Dickinson and Chris Cameron was seated for Carl Murphy.

Public Input Related to Non-Agenda Items: none

I. New Business:

a. Conditional Use Permit Application Discussion, Brox Industries Expansion:

Mr. Bruce Gilday, CWS of BAG Land Consulting, Scott Riley (Operations Manager, Brox Industries) and Erik Stevenson (VP of Real Estate, Brox Industries) were present to represent the applicant Brox Industries, 85 Greeley St. Map136, Lot 1 for the proposed expansion of their existing quarry. As a result of the NHDES review process, the project now proposes to impact (remove) 2.11 acres of wetlands. Mr. Gilday repeated the vernal pool studies and found that the largest wetland contained approx. 8 fairy shrimp and a stand of Buttonbush shrubs. The applicant is prepared to contribute monetary funds into the ARM (Aquatic Resource Management) fund; however, Mr. Gilday will present a “shovel ready” project to the NHDES. Mr. Pinsonneault reiterated that it is critical that the required impact fees are used for a local project within the Town of Hudson. This project was discussed for approximately 35 minutes. Joanne Dowd (President, Highland Woods Condominium Association, 20 Glasgow St.) stated that the Association is concerned with blasting activities and potential groundwater contamination that would result from the quarry expansion. Mr. Dhima explained that there would be no significant impact as the proposed impacts are substantially lower than the elevation of the wetland complex present on the opposite side of Greeley St.

A site walk was scheduled for Thursday, August 15, 2024 at 6:30pm to review the two largest wetlands (Area A and Area J). The other wetland areas reviewed during the 2023 site walk have already been removed.

II. Old Business:

b. Conditional Use Permit Application, Miara Transportation Expansion:

Mrs. Allison Lewis, of Keach Nordstrom Associates was present to represent the applicant Miara Transportation, 12 Bockes Rd. Map136, Lot 1 for the proposed expansion of their existing facility. The project proposes to construct a 9600 SF trailer storage garage with attached 3600 SF awning in the rear of the property. The revised site plan, dated August 8, 2024, repositioned the building to the NE corner of the property which results in a reduction of wetland impacts and further protects existing well water. Wetland Buffer Impact Area was reduced to 830 SF (>75% reduction) and Temporary Wetland Buffer Impact Area was reduced to 3,033 SF (>50% reduction) The revised plans also included the following requested revisions from both the previous site walk and engineering dept. review as previously discussed: additional drainage swale, repositioned maple tree plantings, and double silt fence. After a short discussion, all members found the application to be acceptable.

Mr. Walter moved to recommend the application for approval.

Mr. Pinsonneault seconded the motion.

The motion passed 4-0-1 (Chris Cameron abstained as he is a new member).

Chairman Collins to provide the formal written decision for record.

III. Other Business:

a. Budget 2025/2026 FY

Chairman Collins inquired if there were any new items to discuss for the new budget cycle. There was no input from other members; however, Mr. Collins mentioned that the HCC may consider the creations of an outreach flyer for the Robinson Pond Improvement Project or trail signs. Mr. Dhima mentioned that it is possible create an annual item for Poison Ivy/Invasive Species treatment or increase funding for these professional services. Mr. Dickinson was interested in hiring Full Circle Forestry to conduct forestry operations to maintain and create more views along our trails. This item was discussed for approx. 12 minutes and will be revisited during the September regular meeting.

b. Trail Work Day – 68 Pelham Road and Musquash (Hamblett-Nash Trail):

Trail Work Day is scheduled for September 14th and 15th from 8am-12pm in effort to prune invasive shrubs and remove fallen trees from 68 Pelham Road lot and along the Hamblett-Nash Trail located in the Musquash Conservation Area.

c. HCC 2024/2025 Trail Improvement Activities List:

Chairman Collins asked the commission if there was other items to add to the list of potential trail improvement projects. Mr. Walter mentioned that Mr. Murphy wants to remove the tree at 68 Pelham Road. Mr. Pinsonneault is looking forward to marking out new trails on the Rangers property. Ms. Krisciunas is also looking forward to completing trail markings and signage at Musquash and other conservation properties within Hudson.

d. Picnic on the Pond Event:

After a brief discussion regarding event planning, Chairman Collins announced that this event will take place at the Musquash Pond parking lot from 11am-1pm on September 7, 2024 with Ryan Friedman from NRPC presenting his new maps and trail software. Mr. Collins will purchase some food and drinks for the event.

IV. Financial Status:

First financial summary of FY 2025 (July monthly update) was reviewed. Mr. Dickinson requested clarification for the \$8,100 professional services line item last month. \$795,000 approx. is currently available in the Conservation Fund.

V. Correspondence:

Chairman Collins reviewed our monthly correspondence which included the following:

- a) Full Circle Forestry Invoice for Knotweed Cutting and Removal = \$625.
- b) NH Fish and Game Trapping Permit (for Fisher Cat study)

Chairman Collins provided a signoff pending a future presentation on the findings of this study.

VI. Approval of Minutes:

Meeting minutes for both July 8, 2024 and July 25, 2024 were accepted. Motion by Mr. Pinsonneault to accept minutes; seconded by Mr. Walter.

Motion Carried 4/0/1

VII. Commissioner's Comments:

Mr. Walter mentioned that there was a good discussion at last month's ZORC meeting regarding a new zoning district that would replace the General district with a rural Residential district. Mr. Dickinson and Mr. Collins also provided input. Mr. Cameron asked several questions regarding our zoning ordinance and wetland setbacks. A brief discussion followed regarding this item which was discussed under the Correspondence portion of the meeting.

Mr. Dhima informed the HCC that an update to the proposed Robinson Pond boat launch improvements will be presented at our next regular September meeting. The grant invitation will occur prior to the HCC September regular meeting. Application is due in November and requires BOS approval. The HCC will need to review several items including the request for a boundary line and topographical survey and provide recommendations as necessary.

Ms. Krisciunas asked for more detail in our monthly budget database with focus on professional services.

Mr. Pinsonneault reminded everyone that Archery hunting season opens on 9/15/24 and duck hunting opens on 10/9/24.

Mr. Cameron noted that he will be away the second weekend of September.

Mr. Collins noted that we recently were listed on an abutter notification for an extension of a multi-family use application. Mr. Cameron asked a few questions regarding this application which Mr. Collins clarified.

Mr. Dickinson offered the clerk position to another member if there's sufficient interest, as he is inundated with work and traveling out of state on a regular basis.

VIII. Motion to adjourn:

Mr. Walter moved to adjourn our regular meeting at 8:54 PM; seconded by Mr. Pinsonneault.

Motion Carried 5/0/0

Ken Dickinson

Ken Dickinson, Clerk