

Nelson Conservation Commission  
Draft Minutes  
April 25, 2019

Rick Church called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Other Members Present: Rebecca DiGorolomo (arrived 7:20), Rob Germeroth, Tom Newcombe, Gary Robinson, Kathy Schillemat

March 28, 2019 meeting minutes:

Kathy moved for approval of the previous month's meeting minutes, with one small correction. Rebecca seconded. All voted in favor.

Partridge Woods project:

Rick confirmed that the signs for Homestead Lane will be printed on plastic and need to be mounted on wooden posts. Kathy confirmed the final text to be printed on each of the three signs.

Rebecca confirmed that Meadowsend Consulting can lead a group of NCC members and other interested residents on a walk of the property during the morning of Sat. June 29. By then, their on-site inventory work should be completed and they should be ready to share some findings and recommendations.

DES Wetlands Permits:

The Town's process for notifying NCC about new DES wetlands applications and permits now seems to be working. Following Kathy's recent conversation with Town Clerk Julia Lennon, Julia will make sure that Kathy is notified as soon as any new DES application is received in the Town office, and Kathy will notify everyone on the NCC. Completed application forms can be scanned and emailed, but reviewing the supporting documentation usually requires a visit to the Town office.

Kathy also reported that DES has reinstated the process for Conservation Commission review of Permits by Notification. Also, the DES process for all applications grants conservation commissions the right to site inspections. Property owners affirm this right when they sign the DES application form. Tom agreed to draft a simple flow chart of the latest DES process for each type of application: standard, expedited, and Permit by Notification.

Nelson Roadside Clean-Up Day:

Saturday, April 27 is the day. Kathy is signing up volunteers and road assignments. She will staff the table in front of the Library and issue gloves and trash bags from 9:00 until 10:30. Mike Tarr will pick up the full bags of collected trash along each road the following week.

Organization of Nelson Conservation Commission:

Rick reported that New Hampshire conservation commissions can have from 3 to 7 regular members (those appointed by the Selectmen for specific terms). The NCC currently has 5 regular members, including the Selectmen's representative. In some towns, Alternate members are appointed to substitute for specific absences of regular members. This has not been the practice with the NCC, which relies on Alternate members to serve in the same capacity as regular members, as available.

Following conversations with Tom Duston about the organization of Chesterfield's conservation Commission, Rick suggests that the NCC identify some specific tasks and responsibilities and assign a primary NCC point person to be in charge of each one. This would relieve the Chair of having to initiate or delegate action on every matter, and improve efficiency by enabling activities to proceed without delay in between meetings. Some areas of responsibility that Rick suggests: Permit Reviews and Enforcement, specific Partridge Woods project stages (like the current engagement with Meadowsend Consulting that Rebecca is leading), future acquisitions of conservation lands / easements, and Public Relations (social media, public events, etc.) Rick will come back at a future meeting with some recommendations for further discussion.

Other:

With no other business, Rob moved and Kathy seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Newcombe  
Secretary