

Draft Minutes
Nelson Conservation Commission Meeting
Monday, November 20, 2023 7:00 pm

Minute Taker Janet Yardley

Present: Janet Yardley, chair, Tom Newcomb, alternate taking place of open seat, Nina Iselin, Margy Iselin, Dave Birchenough, Brenna Kucinski, Select Board liaison

Called to order 7:01

Motion to approve Tom Newcomb substituting for the open slot. Second Dave Birchenough.
Passed 5/0

Approval of Meeting minutes corrected to add Brenna Kucinski present

Conservation Moments

2 bald eagles flying on south end of Nubanusit, 2 sheep grazing on Dave's lawn, Dave shared audio of snapping turtle vocalizing on route across Nubanusit Road. Not audible in field, but heard on recording.

Partridge Woods: Approve draft temporary sign for end of Wheeler Trail
Tree down on Ethan's Way near Brickyard. Janet to send to Trail Committee.

Motion by Janet Yardley to approve a temporary sign for Wheeler Trails at south end of Patterson's ROW, 2 signs 8.5 X 11 to be laminated and nailed to trees.

"No Public Access Beyond This Point
Exclusive Private ROW"

Wording may be edited for the final sign to be made later by Dave Birchenough
Second Margy Iselin, Passed 5/0

Report for Annual Meeting 2024 draft to be distributed by Janet Yardley and tabled until next meeting.

Report on NHACC conference by Dave, Nina, Janet

Well attended about 600 people, Excellent speakers and workshops and vendors.
Workshops attended and summaries given: Saving Little Big Forest, Stoddard; Conservation Commission Fundamentals; Wetlands Assessments; Trails for People and Wildlife; Conserving the Mahoosucs; Invasive Species Control and Forest Management; Natural Resources Inventory; Roadway Adaptation for Climate Change; Community Solar and Conservation

Budget for 2024 Discussion tabled to next meeting

Will keep the budget the same as this year. Will circulate the document and vote at next meeting.

Update on Google Drive Dave Tabled to next meeting

Granite Lake Update

Tom Newcomb provided summary and update

DOT has owned problem of clogged catch basin on Rt 9. It has been cleared, but will need surveillance to make sure it continues to function.

DOT has been difficult for Granite Lakes folks and DES folks to deal with.

GLA proposing a working group with members from GLA, Nelson Conservation Commission and Stoddard Conservation Commission and possibly Select Boards from both Nelson and Stoddard. Working group would at least coordinate with Select Boards. Projects may include surveillance of catch basins and culverts. Stoddard planning a survey of culverts through out town and GLA offered to do data collection around Granite Lake. Possibility of hiring a consultant to assist with watershed drainage, culvert survey and prioritization. Discussed the UNH/DES collaboration on surveying culverts and the new standards for measuring culverts and assessing sizing and design. Dave Birchenough and Janet Yardley offered contact of consultants for potential study.

Motion by Janet Yardley to support Work Group of Stoddard and Nelson CC, GLA. Dave Birchenough to be the representative from NCC. Brenna offered to assist the working group if requested by the group. The group will explore hiring a consultant. NCC supports this plan. Second Margy Iselin. Approved 5/0.

DES follow up on Compliance issues

Johnson Case has been closed, but Dave Birchenough reports little if anything has been done for remediation. Janet will try to contact the original compliance officer on the case.

Glass Hammer Requested a copy of the report through freedom of information act.

Lobel on Granite Lake. Contacted owner by phone and arranged a walk through of the site for Janet Yardley and Nina Iselin on 11/24/23 at 9:30 AM.

The Story of Plastic Screening Thursday Feb 1 7:00 Nelson Town Hall. Patsy has reserved the room and requested the screening. The screening is via Zoom and will be projected to the large screen in the Town Hall. Janet will check with Max Nunemaker about ways to amplify the sound. This would allow for people to attend remotely. Discussed inviting Sullivan and Stoddard Conservation Commissions to co-sponsor either in person or via zoom.

Motion to adjourn at 9:15 by Janet Yardley, second by Nina Iselin, approved 5/0

Next Meeting: Monday, December 11, 2023 7:00 pm Lower level of Library.