

Present: Van Webb, chair, Tim Fleury, vice chair, Ginny Gwynn, treasurer, Cliff Fields, Doug Hanson, Barbara Chalmers.

Visitors: Suzanne Tether, Matthias Nevins, Jeff Kellner, Allyson Traeger

Meeting at Town Hall called to order by Van Webb at 7:00 PM.

1. MINUTES

- October minutes. **Motion** by Ginny to accept minutes, 2nd by Doug. Vote unanimous in favor.

2. TREASURER'S REPORT

- Ginny reported that proposed 2024 budget request has been submitted with level funding for Con Com General Fund at \$5,300 and Con Com Fund level at \$55,000 less our portion of Current Use Change Tax income for 2023. Once pending invoices are paid 2023 general fund should near zero out. **Motion** by Barbara to accept the treasurer's report, 2nd by Tim. Vote unanimous in favor.
- Barbara asked if the Dewey Woods Fund was a bank account and a Trustees of the Trust Fund expendable account? She had found paperwork that indicates a town trust fund account had been set up in 1938 called the Dewey Woods Fund, #E-4, PDIP #NH-01-0235-0024, expendable trust with income derived from the property. Ginny will look into this. **Action by Ginny**

3. INVOICES

- MeadowsEnd for Dewey Woods Meadow Restoration consulting Sep invoice #2023-1072 of \$325 and Oct invoice #2023-1075 for \$875. **Motion** by Tim to approve both for payment from professional services, 2nd by Doug. Vote unanimous in favor.
- Annual 2023-24 membership for ASLPT for \$500. **Motion** by Cliff to approve for payment from memberships account, 2nd by Barbara. Vote unanimous in favor.
- Annual SPNHF membership for \$250. **Motion** by Tim to approved for payment from memberships account, 2nd by Doug. Vote unanimous in favor.
- NHACC Nov 4 annual training workshop fee for attendance by Cliff and Ginny of \$130. **Motion** by Tim to approve for payment, 2nd by Barbara. Vote unanimous in favor.

4. MAIL

- DES Violation / Letter of Deficiency: Issued to Bolsinger of Old Norcross Rd off Garnet Hill Rd for shoreline vegetation removal. A restoration plan was ordered to be submitted to DES by Nov. 1. This regards Russell Point, a wooded peninsula near Loon Island Lighthouse. Barbara suggested the commission request a copy of the restoration plan, as they do not get copied to the town. Members agreed to asking for the plan. Allyson noted that having a copy would help the town with any follow-up. **Action by Barbara**
- DES Permit Applications:
 - Silverstein - Fernwood Pt, Raise boathouse (submerged in high water) under review
 - LSPA – replacement of Herrick Lighthouse supports – Permit by Notification
 - Bennett – 88 Hamel Rd Mt View Lake, shore wall rebuild – Permit by Notification
 - Capshaw - 20 Nilsen Lane, lake shore patio & walk rebuild - under DES review
 - Vinick – 71 & 75 Lake Ave, Sunapee Harbor, lake wall re-build- under DES review
 - Fishers Bay - marina dredge & sheet pile installation – under DES review
 - Kelley - 90 Garnet St, Dock, boathouse repair permit granted Sep 13
 - Gottling - 173 Lake Ave boathouse repair permit granted Sep 20

5. VISITORS

- Suzanne Tether of Heritage Road came to discuss her proposal to prohibit developments from ridgeline clear-cutting. She described her motivations, information gathering process to date, and positive meetings with the Planning Board. Since there is not enough time to work out all the necessary details for a zoning amendment article by the March vote deadline, Suzanne is pursuing a petition article that would express support for the concept of ridgeline protection. She noted that the Planning Board will be putting forward an article regarding steep slope development and that Newbury has implemented a policy of no clear cutting for development above elevation 1206 feet. Tim asked Suzanne who would enforce such a provision and how it would mesh with forestry practices? Suzanne responded that the planning board would enforce and that work guided by a professional forester is different from land clearing for development.
- Matthias Nevins, forester with MeadowsEnd. See Dewey Woods below.
- Jeff Kellner. See board vacancy below.
- Allyson Traeger, zoning and planning coordinator, was in attendance to be helpful and for coordination with town office.

6. OLD BUSINESS

- Dewey Woods Meadow Restoration: Matthias Nevins discussed planning for the restoration project and public informational site walk on Nov 6 at 1PM. He has modified the on-site tree flagging. An info sheet & map will be printed for handout, **Action by Barbara & Allyson**. Matthias will follow up with written permission from: DOT re tree cutting in Rte 11 RoW, and with Brian Garland / Sharon Thilicke property crossing for temporary skid road. Matthias to prepare: Public Notice of Project, Intent to Cut forms, draft contract, access agreements, bid prospectus. Tentative date for bidder site walk is Nov 21/22. Goal to have at least 3 bids, with bid opening at our Dec 6 meeting. **Action by Matthias**
Allyson to confirm who will be signing contracts for the town. **Action by Allyson**
Info re timber tax bond to be available for Nov 13 Selectmen's Meeting and be sent to Allyson. **Action by Matthias & Van**
- NRI Action Plan:
 - Build-out analysis: Barbara reported that according to Michael Marquis, a build-out analysis was completed in the late 1990s for the town by the Upper Valley Planning Council and that a max. town population of about 22,000 resulted. Michael does not have a copy of this document, but one may be available from the council.
 - "Low Impact Development" zoning provisions: Barbara reported that according to Michael Marquis, Sunapee does not have these provisions which usually offer incentives to the land developer to implement them.
 - Wetlands Overlay District: Review by Michael Marquis w/ a Com Com member re wetlands ordinance. **Pending**
 - Vernal Pool mapping: Barbara continues to note locations when pools found.
- View Easement at Ryder Corner Road: Tim noted nothing new to report. (This is in hands of town manager for legal assistance to word easement to protect town interests.) **Pending**
- Peer Review Meeting: Barbara reported October meeting continued discussion of Relax Inc. improvements to Route 103-Depot Road site. The wetland on their second tract was mapped, but proposed plan did not observed setbacks so is being reworked. A new Georges Mills village zoning district proposal is moving forward for March vote and will reduce max allowable commercial building size. Erosion issues at Muzzey Brook on Main Street, Georges Mills are being reviewed. Proposed cluster house project of a few months ago for a Beech St/103-B parcel with wetlands is not moving forward.

- Update on Tree Stand Removal & Right-of-way: Tim reported no update. (Town right-of-way over Samalis property and at Keyes Road is in hands of town manager for legal assistance.) Barbara noted that she visited the town parcel at Keyes Road last week and will go back with a better property line map.
- QR Code for Rec Use Data: Allyson Traeger provided data that 28 scans have logged in since posting. Barbara plans to get the QR code up at more trailhead locations. Currently at Ledge Pond, Dewey Woods, Tilton Park, Wendell Marsh at Ryder Corner Rd kiosks.
Action by Barbara
- Proposed Dog Park: At last Saturday's master plan work community discussion, Steve Bourque, Rec Dept noted that how a dog park could fit within the open field with adjustments to the Frisbee toss was being studied.
- Commission Vacancy: Jeff Kellner has submitted a volunteer form to join the Con Com as a voting member. **Motion** by Cliff to support Jeff's application to the Con Com, 2nd by Ginny. Vote unanimous in favor. Jeff's application to go before the Selectmen and then he would be sworn in by Town Clerk. **Action by Jeff**
- Snowmobile trail at Ledge Pond Town Forest: Site walk with Van, Doug, Barbara, and Doug Gamsby took place Oct 20. Gamsby will prepare a map of the area to be stabilized and contact wetland scientist Bob Stuart for assistance. Cliff and Van met with the snowmobile club to discuss the issue and the club will apply for a grant to help defray costs of the stabilization work. They also agreed to close the trail to riders if warm winter weather makes the trail wet. On-site meeting Nov 7 with Doug Gamsby and Bob Stuart at 8AM to discuss stabilization strategy and permitting.
- 2023 Conservation Land (LCHIP) Monitoring: Van contacted MeadowsEnd for annual monitoring. This should be done before the end of the year.

New Business

- Dewey Beach Parking Lot: Barbara reported that the Rec Com had planned to pave the parking lot at Dewey Beach in October. When a Highway Dept public email notice went out prior to the work, Barbara and many others contacted the town to express concern about paving. The town shelved the project and the LSPA offered their assistance to look for alternatives to paving for control of run-off. A meeting will be held later this month with town, Geoff Lizotte of LSPA, and Barbara for the Con Com. Barbara noted that the beach, beach parking lot area, and nearby roadway were all a part of a wetland drainage area into the lake before Garnet St was built in the 1890s and Dewey Beach established in 1938.
- 2024 PLANNH Sunapee Harbor Charrette: Van was sent background information regarding a 2024 PLANNH charette for Sunapee Harbor. Barbara noted this professionally led charette, or brain-storming planning session has been organized by Mike Durfor for next spring under the auspices of the Sunapee Heritage Alliance to discuss and explore options for the future development of Sunapee Harbor. This effort will help guide the Sunapee-Riverway Corp as they consider their future and their property changes in the harbor. This will be an opportunity for the community to express their vision for the harbor.
- Ausbon-Sargent ConCom Area Meeting: Ginny reported that meeting attendees from other Conservation Commissions discussed how they review DES applications. Some have 2 members visit all application sites. Ginny provided a sample letter used to request more

local review time. (Sunapee ConCom voted last June for Barbara to coordinate need for more review time as needed.) Ginny also noted that the report of the presence of Mile-a-Minute weed was news to all at the meeting.

- Barbara reported that Tim and Midge Eliassen of Trow Hill Road were named the 2023 NH Conservationists of the Year by the Society for Protection of NH Forests, a prestigious award. Congratulations to them!

Meeting adjourned 8:35 PM.

Next Meeting: Dec 6 at 7 P 4M

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Chalmers, secretary

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