

Present: Van Webb, chairman, Tim Fleury, vice chairman, Ginny Gwynn, Barbara Chalmers

Absent: Cliff Fields, Matt Hurd

Guests: Sylvia Kellner

Van called the meeting at Town Hall to order at 7:05.

1. MINUTES

Motion by Tim to approve January minutes, 2nd by Barbara. Ginny abstained. Vote unanimous in favor.

2. TREASURER'S REPORT

- Appointment of Treasurer: Ginny declared her interest to be treasurer.
Motion by Tim to appoint Ginny as treasurer, 2nd by Barbara. Vote unanimous in favor.
- Report: Ginny has reviewed the accounts with the town financial office and has compiled a summary table of 2022 end of year status for the 5 Conservation Commission accounts: General Fund \$177, Con Com Fund \$130,806, Town Forest Fund \$17,262.79, Dewey Woods Fund \$1,618.85 and the Bartlett Fund \$28,669.76
Bartlett Fund is invested in a 6 month CD that comes due in April.
Town Forest Fund has Ledge Pond timber sale proceeds. Expenditures from this fund support the town forests and require a warrant article for expenditures.
Con Com Fund will increase by half of the 2022 Current Use Change Tax of \$97,231.56.
General Fund to receive a 2023 appropriation of \$5,300, assuming the warrant article passes, \$4,500 if it does not. Van noted that by law, any General Fund account balance shifts to the next year's account. Ginny will follow-up on this. **Action by Ginny.**
Motion to accept \$97,231.56 of Current Use Change Tax and deposit in the Con Com Fund by Ginny, 2nd by Barbara. Vote unanimous in favor.
Pending: Current Use Change Tax quarterly reports from the town office to Ginny.

3. INVOICES

- UVLSRPC invoice for November work on NRI of \$3,169.38 and for December work of \$641.87, completes the \$14,400 contract. **Motion** by Ginny to pay these two invoices from the Con Com Fund, 2nd by Tim. Vote unanimous in favor.
- Payment of 2022 Pennyroyal revised invoice for view easement survey work is not yet reflected in the account, but should be paid from the Con Com Fund,
- Print Serve \$285.54 invoice for printing 3 bound sets of 2022 NRI report, maps, appendix:
Motion to pay this invoice for NRI printing from General Fund, Supplies account by Ginny, 2nd by Tim. Vote unanimous in favor. Check to reimburse Barbara who paid for this printing personally.
- Barbara presented a quote from QNP, the company who manufactured the metal Conservation Commission town forest ID disks a few years ago, for making more disks. She noted that sections of town forest perimeters are not fully identified as town forest conservation land. **Motion** by Barbara to purchase 250 discs at \$1.90 from General Services account, second by Van. Vote unanimous in favor.
Barbara will place the order and have them shipped to her home as was done for the trail arrow marker signs. **Action by Barbara**
- Pending; NH Assoc of Conservation Commissions membership invoice of \$425 for 2023 to be paid in April 2023.

4. MAIL

- TTC Properties, 22 Woodland Road: DES permit approval.
- Scott Flint, Sleeper Road: DES restoration plan and impact permit

- SPNHF report on Soule conservation land monitoring.
- Tim reported that he did not respond to the NHDOT September letter re mitigation priorities related to future Springfield Road culvert work at Otter Pond outlet, but has been in communication regarding this with the Otter Pond Association that has responded to the letter.

5. VISITORS

Sylvia Kellner of Mabbs Way has submitted a volunteer application to the town and is interested in the alternate position on the Conservation Commission. She has been a part of her family's long-time home on Rolling Rock Road, is very interested in conservation, and feels that this is a good time for her to become involved.

6. OLD BUSINESS

- View Easement at Ryder Corner Road: Tim reported that Ausbon Sargent is considering two approaches to view easement legal language and awaits their decision. In both approaches, timber cut within the easement belongs to the town. Tim will contact Josh Ginsburg to advise on status of the easement deed. **Action by Tim**
- Peer Review Meeting: Barbara attended the January meeting. Discussions included: proposed Recreation Committee grant-funded improvements at Veterans' Field, proposed relocation of the summer farmers' market, information found about a town wetlands study, and Master Plan survey to soon go live. Barbara will continue to attend these meetings on an interim basis.
- Planning Board NRI Cost Share: Tim will contact Michael Marquis and Shannon Martinez about Planning Board assistance with cost of the NRI. A summary of NRI billings was provided to Tim by Barbara. **Action by Tim**
- Update on Treehouse & QR Code for Rec Use Data from Cliff: No update. **Action by Cliff**
- Hiking Trail Fallen Tree Removal: Barbara reported that someone cleared the down trees across the Dewey Wood hiking trail.
- 2023 Warrant Article - Funding Conservation Expendable Trust Fund: Warrant is proceeding with request for \$1,500, a much lower amount than usually requested due to the size of the 2022 Current Use Change Tax which supports the Conservation Fund. Discussion regarding increasing our target amount for the Conservation Fund given the rise in land sales values to reflect in the cost of future conservation easements. **Motion** to increase our target fund amount from \$250,000 to \$425,000 by Barbara, 2nd by Ginny. Vote unanimously in favor.
- Dewey Woods / Garnet Hill Park: Forest assessment walk at Dewey Woods lots located east and west of Route 11 and the Tyler-Bartlett Lot (Garnet Hill Park) with our forestry consultant, MeadowsEnd, will occur on February 16 at 1 PM, meeting at Dewey Woods ballfield parking lot. To be reviewed: west meadow tree perimeter and brush clearing, ball field perimeter trees for health and safety issues, general forest health, and trees at Tyler-Bartlett lot boundary at Carey property that may be a blow-over hazard.
- NRI: Barbara shared copies of the printed and bound NRI report. Errors were discovered last week in the conservation land map and associated parcel table. Barbara has since researched and corrected them in the bound reports. She will contact Olivia to make final edits to the map and provide a new digital file. At the meeting, it was determined that the Soule conservation land is not reflected in the map or table. Barbara will add it. Once

an updated map file is back from Olivia it will be loaded to our web page. **Action by Barbara**

Van noted the importance of getting word out about the new NRI report. Discussion of ways to accomplish this including: article for Intertown Record, LSPA newsletter, and Project Sunapee email blast, and information out at the Deliberative Session next week. Barbara reported that this summer, she will present a Sunapee Historical Society program about the history of town parks, conservation land, and the new NRI. **Action by Barbara**

8. NEW BUSINESS

- New Members: **Motion** by Tim to recommend the appointment of Sylvia Kellner to the open alternate seat, 2nd by Ginny. Vote unanimous in favor. Van noted we continue to need one member.
- NRI Presentation to Planning Board: Barbara reported that Olivia's January NRI overview presentation was very well received. She focused on our four primary interest zones and leading strategies to enact our ten-year conservation goals action plan. The planning board views the NRI data and maps as very useful for their work and for the Master Plan update.
- 2023 Warrant Article 41: Van reported that Clayton Platt has GPS mapped the flagged bounds set by Dave Bailey and Charlie Hirschberg for land to be removed from town forest designation at 29-acres. This is a little more than the early guestimate and will be brought forward at the Deliberative Session to correct the article acreage. **Action by ConCom members in attendance at the Deliberative Session.**
Tim noted that the perimeter blazes on Treatment Plant portion of the Bartlett-Archers lot to the Ausbon Sargent conserved land line need to be refreshed so that any future treatment plant work does not infringe. **Future action**
- Ledge Pond Trail Erosion: Ausbon Sargent has been in touch with Van regarding trail erosion at Ledge Pond which seems to be the result of logging activities from 2021. With current snow cover the situation is difficult to review now. Tim commented that he thought the brook that parallels the trail had jumped its bank, so may need to be pushed back to its original location and gravel added to the trail where eroded. This will be field reviewed in the spring and an action plan put in place in communication with Ausbon Sargent. **Future action**
- Tim reported that in light of recent Heath family land sales, Ausbon Sargent was in touch with the family regarding their intent to conserve land at the Sunapee-Newbury-Goshen town lines. Their continued interest to conserve land was confirmed.

Reminder: conservationcommission@town.sunapee.nh.us emails to this address are being monitored by Barbara and all emails should be copied to, if not sent out via, this address. Access is through outlook.com

Meeting adjourned 8:30 PM. Next Meeting: March 1 at 7 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Chalmers, secretary