

Sunapee Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes for June 2, 2021

Present at the Town Office: Van Webb, Mark Reynolds, Lela Emery

Present via Zoom: Cliff Field (late)

Lela shared 6 of 8 trail maps with history of Town properties printed on water proof paper. These were created by Barbara Chalmers and are for sale at the Historical Society and the Harbor Trade store. FYI.

Absent: Terry Mattson, Matt Hurd

Tim Fleury Read the Governors Emergency Order

Tim Fleury made the motion to accept the meeting minutes of May 2021. Seconded by Mark Reynolds. All in favor 4, Opposed 0.

Treasurers Report Mark reported that the 2020 Town funds have been received to the SCC accounts in February 2021. Van would like to have our balances due from the 2021 vote funding reflected in our reporting. The \$55,000 due to us is not reflected and would like to see the funds show in our balances for project planning. It is deceiving to not have a full account of funds actually available to us. Mark will work with Lynne on how to reflect the warrant article funding to the SCC funds. No budget report included, last minute request was made on meeting day.

Current account balances:

CCF \$29,338.69

Dewey Woods \$1,611.83

Town Forest Fund \$22,867.55

Bartlett Tyler Fund \$29,090.70

Budget Balance \$1,200.00 (per report received 6/3/21)

Mail:

DES Wetlands Permit by Notification for Evans, 61 North Shore Road, Sunapee Perkins Pond
Wetlands Permit by Notification, 16 Sunnyside Rd, Sunapee 148/37. Remove existing dock and replace seasonal/aluminum dock 6ft X 30 ft. Different location. Van Signed 2/22/21, Accepted by Rachel TOS May 2021.

Letter from ASLPT notification of view easement to TOS on Ryder Corner Road over Wendall Marsh North.

NH Audubon packet State of NH Birds

Granite State Tree Farmer Newsletter

Letter from DES Utility Statuary Permit by Notification Sunapee by Eversource. Work to start and Application is complete.

Deb Samalis letter regarding right of way and visit to 70 West Court Rd Sunapee

Packet from ASLPT which contained copies of all the Monitoring reports performed in Sunapee and Otter Pond.

Tim Fleury made the motion to approve the Treasurers report. Motion Seconded by Lela Emery. Roll call vote since Cliff joined meeting via zoom. MR Y, VW Y, LE Y, TF Y, Cliff Field Abstain (late to info)

Ann with ASLPT joined the meeting via zoom to report on the view easement by a neighbor over Wendall Marsh North and to give the perspective of ASLPT. The view easement did exist prior to ASLPT easement and prior to the TOS owning the property. The VE language is very vague. The recommendation is the Town of Sunapee to meet with the neighbor and work out an agreement, with the parameters and the perimeters of the view line and the requirements necessary to provide the view. This could then provide and define the legal and monitoring language to set future work and maintenance for both parties and both parcels. The parcel has had prior cutting for this view. There is a

small area that allows for the view so very specific cut to acquire. SCC would like to work with neighbor, TOS and ASLPT to get this resolved and recorded for the future. Ann was going to share wording on other view easements they hold as examples.

Ann with ASLPT also commented on the Samalis letter, Donna replied to the letter, but there is confusion and definitely needs clarity on the right of way. ASLPT agrees that TOS has a right of way but it is poorly defined and Clayton Platt added it to the survey and references an old logging pass. The Term Men and Teams owner claims is the public, Town of Sunapee refers to municipalities' access. The right of way was not written anticipating a town would own the land and was granting access to the property owner to access their property. But now a Town does own it and need access to clean it up and do work. Van asked does the town have the right to use the right of way to bury a water line from the water source across the property to connect to West Court and then North Road. That is a question for a Lawyer. Cliff noted that Town Council and the Towns Attorney are working on those deeds now to define them and do better job of getting the right away clarified. Cliff also said that since the town is the ownership, the town would stand for all its citizens so when the town purchased the property it changed to the public not an individual. All this is being reviewed and sorted out. Also on a positive side Deb Samalis has given her cell phone number to Ann at ASLPT so that she can call ahead to Alert Deb she will be on the property and Deb will make sure her dogs are secured. The conversation shifted back to the Wendall Marsh North View easement. Van asked if there should be a point person for this project. Conversation with Donna and make sure we are moving forward and Michael Chiarella's letter. If we are to be assigned to this we need to meet with the land owner with at a SCC meeting, flush out what our concerns are, then the SCC needs to meet on the ground to define the area involved. Get a survey done then we will need to approve funding. If needed Tim Fleury can be a point person going forward. Cliff will not partake in any involvement since a neighbor.

Meadowsend Timberlands Ltd invoice for a Forest Service Agreement FSA for \$1,500 which is a new proposal and is adjusted for less aggressive work to be done on Ledge Pond in 2021. Details of work to be done on a short link trail will occur in late spring involving: cutting, limbing, raking/leaf blow debris off tread way, set all trail blaze signs, Removal of high-risk trail side hazards. SCC plans to put a budget together for a warrant article for work to be performed in 2022 trail work. Van sent Lucien Osborne an email May 17th, stating that he should have his project go before the Select Board for approval to ensure the Town is ok since on town property doing trail work. Van noted that Jeremy Turner would work with Lucien Osborne/Eagle Scout on trail layout and coordinate volunteers as Van connected the two via email. **Tim Fleury made the motion to authorize MTL commence trail work this summer not to exceed \$1,500 and to authorize Van Webb to sign the FSA on behalf of the SCC. Mark Reynolds seconded the motion.**

Cliff- discussion of the motion prior to the vote that when Cliff was talking to Donna she had reservations about the Scout working on the Land and the supervision, and Cliff didn't think that has all been ironed out, Van thought said that Donna thought that the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) would have the insurance and they would be liable for scout activity, Cliff said Donna questioned on the supervision, Cliff thought she was not going to sponsor him (Lucien) and they should check with Jeremy. Jeremy MTL FSA is not dependent on the Scout work, if Scouts can't make it work and Donna not comfortable then it doesn't happen Jeremy do the work either way. **VOTE Of Motion - CF Y, MRY, VW Y, LE Y, TF Y.** Van will follow up with Jeremy Turner.

Otter.ai maybe an option to highlight meeting minutes in the future.

Ledge Pond Eagle Scout Project by Lucien Osborne, The town may not be in favor of the Scouts going out there. This added new level complexity since a minor. Eagle Scout, We should not have an individual member to sponsor, This is a SCC project. The SCC is on board, work with the town or town forester. Tonight a discussion do we approve the project subject to review by the town. Before any work commences it needs to be cleared by the town so they can take volunteers out. Lucian should communicate with the SCC. Discussion of a motion to approval the Eagle Scout Project on the Ledge pond property. Lela asked has a plan/proposal been received on the project, Van says it has been and was going to be sent out by Terry to all for review. Cliff made the point that Donna concerned that we as a commission we do not have the authority to take people out into the woods and to oversee them. Lela is not in favor of making a motion this evening till we can all review the proposal and all is sorted out regarding the trail work with the town and Donna, how can we say yes when we haven't even gotten our policy and procedures in place. Table the motion/vote for now, Tim says revisit after Cliff's update. Cliff Field reported on the Trail Work. Cliff reviewed many other towns, organizations and groups trail work guidelines and procedures with regards to volunteers, they cover the whole spectrum. The suggestion of working with Scott Blewitt under the recreation committee as Scott is a town employee. SCC does not see how that helps us accomplish our goals and needs. SCC needs to draft a policy statement and define activity of trail work and who and how it would be performed. Aaron Simpson would work on a policy/procedures Statement. We could present it to the Select board to start the process. Cliff will communicate with Aaron to start something for maybe the July or August meeting, there is lots of information/material to work with.

Mark reported on the **Walk in the Woods** progress introduced by John Augustine. SCC likes the idea of starting small with one trail and having a guided walk and highlight one trail. Then next year maybe add a two trails spring and a fall hike. Two people would be needed for any hike, one to lead and one last to make sure no one was lost or trailed to far behind. Red Water Creek from Dexters was discussed. John Augustine supported the idea, Tim Fleury would help.

Other Notes, Ash trees are dying in town and will need to be addressed on Town Property, including Ski Tow Hill and Dewey Woods behind home plate.

Samalis Property, town employee with a truck is allowed on the property with prior notice for cleanup of monitoring report findings and defects. Town also has the "no motorized" signs that will be put up on the property as well.

Eagle Scout Project was not revisited.