

Present: Van Webb, Tim Fleury, Mark Reynolds, Cliff Fields, Barbara Chalmers

Absent: Terry Mattson, Mat Hurd, alternate Ginny Gwynn

Guests: Josh Ginsburg by Zoom, Olivia Uyizeye of UVLSRPC by Zoom.

Van called the meeting at Town Hall to order at 7:00.

1. MINUTES

Motion by Mark to approve Sep minutes, 2nd by Tim. Cliff abstained, Vote to approve unanimously.

2. TREASURER'S REPORT

- No treasurer's report this month. Mark reported that the new town accounting system is still being set up. Van noted we need a report that shows: budgeted amount, expended amount and remaining amount for each sub-account.

Motion: By Tim to accept report such as it is. 2nd by Cliff. Vote unanimous in favor.

Tim and Van reviewed past reports to determine payment sources for this month's invoices.

- Pending from Jan: Mark doesn't think there will be one consolidated bank account for con com funds this year.
- Pending from Apr: Shift MeadowsEnd GPS billing from professional services account to general fund. Mark reported that it will be corrected this month.

3. MAIL

- DES Wetland App re Tibbetts 189 Lake Ave, re-build of new house.
- DES Wetland App re Parsons 22 Woodland Road replace wall, regrading, kayak access
- DES Wetland App re 1106 Lake Ave Georges Mills, need more information
- DES Wetland App re 196 Garnet Hill Road and 39 Tilson Point Road were granted by DES
- DES letter re Flint Sleeper Road wetland violation: Flint proposal for stabilization & monitoring was accepted by DES and must be completed by end of October.
- DOT letter re future project to replace Springfield Road culvert at Otter Pond outlet. DES wants town input for mitigation priorities if it is determined that the project's wetland impact triggers mitigation. This letter was sent to 8 town agencies/organizations. Barbara noted she will be responding for the Sunapee Historical Society. Tim will draft a response.

Action by Tim

4. INVOICES

- SPNHF 2022 membership: \$250

Motion by Cliff to pay invoice from membership budget, 2nd by Barbara. Vote approved unanimously.

- UVLSRPC invoice re NRI update services: \$2,940

Motion by Tim to pay invoice from con com fund, 2nd by Cliff. Vote approved unanimously.

- UVLSRPC re travel expenses for NRI update: \$228.75

Motion by Tim to pay invoice from professional services budget, 2nd by Barbara. Vote approved unanimously.

- Ausbon-Sargent membership invoice: \$500.

Motion by Cliff to table this until clarification of 2022 membership billing & payment, 2nd by Tim. Vote approved unanimously. If this is a 2023 membership invoice, payment to occur after March 2023 town meeting.

5. VISITORS:

- Josh Ginsburg joined meeting to review his view easement over town land monitored by Ausbon Sargent for 129 Ryder Corner Road which does not appear in town deeds. The Con Com requested that Josh contribute half the cost for the Clayton Platt land survey, field pins,

and map to register at county deeds, estimated cost of \$1,200. Josh responded that when this issue first came up more than a year ago, he understood there would be no cost to him to correct this oversight. He is willing to compromise and contribute 25% of the cost.

Motion: By Tim to accept the offer and split cost town 75% and Josh Ginsburg 25% for services by surveyor Clayton Platt to document the view easement. 2nd by Barbara, Vote with Cliff abstaining, was unanimous in favor.

- Olivia Uyizeye of UVLSRPC re NRI update – see below.

6. OLD BUSINESS

NRI Update: Olivia joined the meeting by Zoom to discuss NRI update draft.

- Olivia reviewed the schedule, with final draft in December for publishing in January. Photos Olivia requested last month have been loaded to the drop box. Updated town current use data and map have been provided to Olivia.
- Van thanked Ginny and Barbara for commenting on latest NRI draft. Olivia responded to questions this review generated:
 - What are the terrestrial natural communities and where are they? This portion came from the Heritage Bureau. Olivia will review.
 - Should water quality section be reviewed with LSPA? Good idea, Barbara will forward for their comments. Should section on energy be reviewed with Energy Committee? Good idea, Barbara will forward for their comments. Barbara will reach out to Rec Committee for comments on section regarding outdoor rec use of land.
 - Olivia will check w/ DES for updated non-municipal community wells re Barbara's comments on inactive sites noted in the draft. Some are properties in use under new names.
 - Wendell Marsh wells for future municipal use will be shown on a report map with protective zones. Van noted that recreation trail will need to be moved out of those zones.
 - Tim asked for definition of terminology "diffuse flow climate informed." Olivia responded that wildlife movement due to climate stress can be diffuse or concentrated, as in river zones. Resiliency mapping shows how wildlife react through migration. Tim asked that this section and map be written in laymen's terms for better understanding.
- Co-occurrence model elements were reviewed including: Wildlife, surface water, climate change, water protection, land-based protections, cultural/natural resources. Olivia noted that she is trying to balance water and land-based priorities. All agreed this was a good mixture of indicators.
- Olivia will attend the November meeting in person for discussion of model and review co-occurrence maps. We should plan on one-hour, from 7 to 8 PM.
- **Action:** Time is budgeted in November for Olivia to meet with town stake-holder groups (nothing is set up yet).
- **Action:** Olivia will need our thoughts regarding elements of the new conservation plan.
- Barbara will invite Michael Marquis and Peter White of the Planning Board and town manager Shannon Martinez to our working session at our next meeting. With more buy-in now, it is hoped the NRI will be utilized as a town resource in the future. **Action by Barbara**
- An LSPA rep will be invited to our December meeting.

Archers/Barrett Lot Wetland Survey: Aug Pending: Clayton Platt proposal. **Action by Tim.**

Peer Review Meeting: Barbara attended September meeting regarding town department input for Planning Board Master Plan questionnaire for residents and tax payers. It is expected to be released in January 2023.

Ledge Pond Town Forest & Hiking Trails:

- Community Hike: Great turnout of 50 people on a nice afternoon. Tim provided commentary on forest management & work of ConCom, Barbara provided overview of land history. This will become an annual event for Sunday prior to Columbus Day weekend.
- Canoe has been removed by the pond.
- Trail Map Update: Barbara updated trail map on website. Updated forest rules, QR code and trail map now at Ledge Pond, Dewey Woods and Wendell Marsh trail kiosks. Barbara made trail signs for trail intersections at Ledge Pond. Kiosk at Dewey Woods was in need of TLC and got a new coat of paint with new signage.

2022 Town Forest Rec Use Data Collection: Barbara reported that the free trial period for the QR code set up by Terry has run out (40 hits so far) and that a permanent code needs to be established in order to monitor trail use. Will cost \$120/year for basic service reporting to an email address set up for Con Com. Recently installed kiosk signs will need to be changed out if a permanent QR code is established. Cliff offered to follow-up and get an invoice for action at next month's meeting. **Action by Cliff**

Planning Board NRI Cost Share: Aug Pending: Tim to contact planning board. **Action by Tim**

Treehouse on Wendell Marsh land: Cliff reported issue is access on right of way over abutter's land at end of Westcourt Road. Cliff will contact town manager to request clarification of right to cross land. **Action by Cliff**

Dewey Beach Erosion: Barbara reported that a bluestone berm has been constructed at the beach gate to direct road/parking lot run-off to the catch basin inlet. Town manager has had the gates raised for closure at the new berm. This should resolve beach sand wash-out due to road runoff, however spring ground water table surcharge will continue to well-up and surface drain at the beach. Paving the beach parking lot is being considered for next year's road department budget and would include a permanent pavement berm.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- Barbara noted three trees about 8" caliper size blew down and block the Dewey Woods connector trail to the Herbert Welsh trail. Cliff asked if this can be handled by volunteers or if must be hired out. Cliff will contact Shannon about this. **Action by Cliff**
- 2023 Budget: Town manager has asked for Con Com proposed 2023 budget. Van proposed \$4,500 for Con Com expenses and \$55,000 for the Conservation Commission Fund. The latter amount was reduced in 2021 when cuts from all departments were request.

Meeting adjourned 10:00 PM.

Next Meeting: November 2 at 7 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Chalmers, secretary