

Hebron Conservation Commission
March 17, 2021 Minutes
Hebron Academy – Zoom option

Present: Martha Twombly (co-chair), Suzanne Smith (co-chair), Bill Luti (alt), Don Musial, and Patrick Moriarty participated remotely.

Guest: Paul Connor

Martha called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

Martha introduced Paul Connor who is interested in being a member of the Conservation Commission. She explained some of the work which the Conservation Commission has been doing. Don loaned Paul the Handbook for NH Association of Conservation Commissions.

Members agreed that Martha request that Paul Connor be appointed to the HCC.

She then reported that Bruce Barnard is retiring from the Conservation Commission. Members discussed honoring Bruce for his MANY years of service to the town.

MINUTES: Patrick made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Martha seconded the motion. With no objection the minutes were approved.

PERMITS: No permits to review.

Patrick stated that there will be a warrant article at Town Meeting to fund the new Forest Management Plan which will be done by Foreco. Bob Berti is retiring from Foreco and Tracey Steenbergen and 2 foresters will be taking over the operation.

CHARLES BEAN CONSERVATION AREA:

Monitoring and Baseline Report: Suzanne passed around documents which will form the basis of the Baseline Documentation Report on the CBCA including Rick Van de Poll's Rapid Ecological Assessment including maps, history of the property, minutes of meetings where the property was offered to the town in 1970 and checklist of monitoring protocols. Rick's REA includes the NLRA former marina property, and Suzanne asked members if they thought we should be doing anything to separate out the two properties. No rewrite will be done, but probably a note that both properties are included. More work will be done on this at future meetings, and both Suzanne and Martha stressed the importance of all members being involved in the process. Martha and Suzanne walked part of the CBCA last week. Members also discussed whether the town could 'lose' the property if the specifications in the deed are not followed. Members agreed that we should continue to steward the property. Discussion of when snowmobile through the property was first developed. Bruce Barnard has previously stated that the snowmobile trail was in use when the property was initially transferred. Martha will ask Bruce to write up an affidavit stating the trail's history.

Signage and trespassing: Discussion of signage and various alternative ideas for keeping people from landing on the CBCA beach. Rick Van de Poll suggested buoys or a line similar to swim lines. This would need to go through Marine Patrol. Members agreed that Hebron Police need

to be more active and do ridealongs with Marine Patrol. Fines were discussed for trespassers. Members wondered if the town owned a boat which the police could use.

HEBRON TOWN FOREST: The access trail/road to the bridge has been severely flooded after heavy rains. The work done last year has not helped alleviate the situation. Martha stated that the culverts/drainage ditches need repair. Ben Hall is aware of this and Don Musial and Ben will review and look at best option.

Trail work: Friends of Hebron Town Forest will be activated late spring to do trail work, clearing debris and raking. Last year's efforts were very successful on Cockermouth Ledge Trail. The Conservation Commission received a request from Kellon Austin, who is working on a boy scout Trails Merit Badge and has asked to volunteer doing trail work.

Don volunteered to place large stones at site of new bridges across streams going into and out of wetlands. This will make the bridges more user friendly. This work cannot begin until snow has melted and the ground is dry.

SPECTACLE POND: Members received copies of the VLAP report done by Spectacle Pond Association. Martha reported that Hebron Conservation Commission pays the cost of the VLAP work at a cost of about \$200, since at least half of the Pond is in Hebron and in particular in the Town Forest. Additionally there are 7 or 8 small camps on the shore of the pond in Hebron as well as the Lydia Flint Forest, another conservation property.

MEETING DATES AND TIMES: Wilhemina ____ would like to be part of the Commission but cannot make Wednesday meetings. Members agreed that Tuesdays were fine, but first we need to check with Karen Sanborn to make sure that Tuesday does not conflict with any other scheduled meetings. Paul Conner stated he is out of state during June and July.

INVASIVE SPECIES INVENTORY OF TOWN: Tabled until a future meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS: Patrick reported that the Beach Committee has determined that only Hebron residents may utilize the parking at Town Beach in both WINTER and summer. This past winter, the road and parking lot were over utilized which causes damage to road and parking lot surface.

Also, Alan Baker has done a study by hand where he measured the water depth at the mouth of the Cockermouth, at the mouth, the water depth is 58" and out 500' the depth is 5". Members observed that it would be beneficial to put Alan in touch with Rick Van de Poll who has done a lot of work in that area on lake levels. The current from the river moves west as the water depth lessens and contributes to the buildup of leaves and debris on Hebron beach.

Suzanne suggested we discuss the NHACC's first statewide bioblitz to be held during the month of September. We expect more information will be forthcoming in future months.

Reminder of public hearing of proposed town ordinance additions and changes to be held March 22. One item which was to be included was Hebron adopting the Shoreland Protection

act. Patrick stated that the town lawyer said Hebron can enforce without adding it into an ordinance. Patrick stated the Cease and Desist order from the town will go out tomorrow to Hughes, the owner of the Crystal Springs property due to problems with noncompliance with Shoreland Permit and resulting damage after heavy rainfall.

Martha reminded members to sign up for Saving Special Places. It will be held on zoom and there are a lot of educational workshops. If members pay the fee, the town will reimburse them out of the Conservation Commission budget.

Suzanne made a motion to adjourn and Don seconded. All concurred and the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Smith, Acting Secretary