

FINAL

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Damren Room at Lebanon Library OR
Remote Via Microsoft Teams
LebanonNH.gov/Live
February 9, 2023
6:30 PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sarah Riley (Chair), Bruce James (Vice Chair), Ernst Oidtmann, Chris Johnson, Barbara Hirai (Alt.), Erling Heistad, Susan Almy

MEMBERS ABSENT: Donald Lacey, Sean Dittrich (Alt.)

STAFF PRESENT: Mark Goodwin (GIS Coordinator)

1. CALL TO ORDER – Chair Riley called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Ms. Hirai sat in for Mr. Lacey.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 12, 2023

Mr. Oidtmann MOVED to approve the January 12, 2023 minutes, as amended.

Seconded by Mr. James.

** The Vote on the MOTION was approved (7-0-0).*

3. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

4. PERMIT REVIEW

None.

5. STUDY ITEMS

A. Zoning Amendments Ballot Amendments concise statements

Amendment #1 (Cottage Developments):

The Commission approves of and endorses the adoption of the proposed zoning amendment, as it supports the overall goals and desired outcomes of the Lebanon Master Plan. Allowing residential developments with smaller and more energy efficient dwelling units will enable the development of needed housing in a more compact form that supports a sustainable community and promotes efficient land use while ensuring compatibility with surrounding neighborhoods.

Amendment #2 (Manufactured Housing)

The Conservation Commission has determined the proposed Zoning Amendment has limited conservation implications.

Amendment #3 (Accessory Uses in the Rural Lands Three (RL-3) District

The Conservation Commission has determined the proposed Zoning Amendment has limited conservation implications.

Amendment #4 (Accessory Dwelling Units)

The Conservation Commission has determined the proposed Zoning Amendment has limited conservation implications.

B. Goals for 2023

The Commission engaged in a lengthy discussion regarding desired goals for the coming year, as summarized via the following outline:

Property Stewardship

- Forest Management Plans (review existing and determine gaps) and more engagement related to recommended action/activities
- Review gaps and needs for infrastructure, e.g., footbridges, etc.
- Signage/Kiosks/Map resources
- Trail Maintenance (ongoing care of existing trails)

Education / Outreach

- Workshop for ConCom to increase awareness of aquifer/water resource status, including future plans.
- Increased ConCom knowledge of general topic of water resource (internal education for ConCom members)
- Continued support for Wild About Lebanon

Land Conservation

- Add to existing 2,000 acres, for land acquisition
- Review and modify as needed existing regulations related to OS protection (e.g., ridgeline, aquifer, steep slopes, etc.)
- Increased awareness and encouragement for land protection
- As part of the Wetland Permit process, have mitigation projects in the hopper to offer

Miscellaneous

- Increased communication regarding DPW maintenance activities, future well plans, stormwater initiatives (e.g., LID techniques, water quality protection, etc.)
- LOST Fund Investment Strategies
- Collaboration / Communication between ConCom and proposed redevelopment plans for West Lebanon

C. Ticknor Property – site walk recap

The Commission reviewed the site walk notes from December 12.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Conservation Committee Reports:

Ms. Hirai provided an update on the Elm Planting project and interest from USFS personnel to continue to engage in monitoring.

Mr. Oidtmann shared an update regarding downed trees on the Aspinwall trail.

Mr. Johnson provided an update on recent trail clearing that he engaged in at Two Rivers.

Chair Riley shared details regarding the upcoming Wild About Lebanon event that will occur on February 21, to be led by Ron Baily along the Hall and Hall School Class A trails.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Riley shared an update regarding the FYI notices the ConCom had received, including the Edwards property, and the Hanover Street bridge replacement project. Council Rep. Heistad described the design of a bridge in Plainfield, and noted that the bridge designer, Bill Knight, is offering to share the design plans.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

9. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristan Patenaude
Recording Secretary