

**Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes of
February 19, 2020**

PRESENT: Tim Lovell, Paul Carideo, David Treat, Brent Ebner and Steve Ungerer.

Guest: Jim Wilkinson and Eagle Scout

Mr. Lovell called the meeting to order at 7PM

Minutes

Mr. Ebner made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of January 15, 2020 with amendments, the motion was seconded by Mr. Ungerer. Vote: 4-0-1 (Mr. Carideo abstained)

There is still one open spot of the Conservation Commission, Jim Wilkinson is interested and will provide a letter of interested to the Selectmen.

Eagle Scout Project

Daniel was present at the meeting to discuss his Eagle Scout Project. He will build a kiosk at the East Hampstead trail head. He will also be doing some fundraising for the project such as bake sales, etc.

He provided the Commission with a packet of information for the Commission's review. He would like to complete the project this coming Summer or Fall. Mr. Ebner advised that the map might not be ready this Summer but it can be placed in the Kiosk after the map is completed. It is being delayed due to the timber harvest that Plaistow is planning on its conservation land.

Mr. Ebner said that Unfortunately 70-90 year old trees will be taken down and the path around the rookery might be moved.

Brady Lane Subdivison

The application just came in and Mr. Lovell went to the Town's tech review meeting. There is a pond on the property and he is concerned that there might be Blanding turtles in the area. The pond is about 8 feet deep and the Fire Department wants to use it for a fire suppression water supply. He is planning on going to the area to see if the turtles surface. The pond is difficult to see on the Planning Board maps. It shows up as very poorly drained soils.

LCIP reports

Mr. Lovell handled the LCIP reports this year and expressed his concern about the water being extracted from HAWC wells as it relates to conservation land. According to one of the deeds, HAWC has a right to put wells on the conservation land. The land had been previously donated. Mr. Carideo said that HAWC would have to notify the Town if it was going to do any drilling on this parcel. He further stated that no one owns the water

so an abutter can drill a well without considering the impact on the abutter's property. Everyone has rights to the water. Selectman Guthrie wondered if taking it out of conservation, if the property was sold to another, would that stop the ability of HAWC drilling there. The response was the HAWC would still have water rights no matter who owns it. They also wondered if this property was commercial or not and how are they taxed. Mr. Carideo said that it is up to the State to determine the GPM that can be withdrawn and the number of wells that can be placed on the property.

The Commission also discussed the transfer of water to and from Atkinson and there is no way to determine which town is receiving water from another town.

Upcoming EPA stormwater visit.

Members of the Conservation Commission are interested in attending the EPA's audit of the Town's stormwater management.

Kelly Brook vs. Darby Brook

There was a discussion concerning the history of the naming of Kelly/Darby Brook and if they are one of the same or does one start where another one ends. The Historic Commission will be contacted to see if they can provide some information about the brook(s) to see if the maps should be changed.

Other subjects

Mr. Ebner mentioned an educational series that the Atkinson Library is holding about coyotes and bobcats. There is a lot of misinformation out there. Contact will be made with Hampstead Library.

No one showed for the moonlight snowshoe walk, most likely it was due to the inclement weather.

Mr. Ebner made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lovell. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting ended at 8:10 PM.

The next meeting will be held on March 18, 2020.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sally Theriault