

**Conservation Commission  
Meeting Minutes of  
November 17, 2021**

**PRESENT:** Jim Wilkinson, Steve Ungerer, Neil Reardon, David Treat, Tim Lovell, Neil Lynch and Brent Ebner.

Mr. Lovell called the meeting to order at 7PM.

**Minutes**

**Mr. Lovell made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of October 20, 2021 as amended. Mr. Wilkinson seconded the motion. Vote: 7-0. Motion passes.**

**Old Business**

Charlie Zilch and Gary Barnes were not present to propose a new design for the area at the end of Mary E. Clark Drive. A question arose as to whether or not paving is considered when encroaching into the wetland setback areas. Upon further review it was determined that only structures are considered when determining a wetland encroachment. Ms. Cozzens referred to the Conservation Blue Handbook, which mentions paving and wetland areas, section 8.9. She further mentioned that this parcel is considered a wildlife habitat area by the NH wildlife corridors map.

Mr. Lovell believes that Code Enforcement is aware of the storage container on the property. The Commission believes that the contents of the container may be detrimental to the wildlife and they are concerned about hydraulics, oil, salt and gas leaking into the wetlands. Mr. Emerson will be advised of the storage container and the concerns of the Commission.

**Shirley Street**

Chris Murray of 29 Shore Drive, an abutter to a property located on Shirley Street, was present to show the Commission a videotape of water flowing through a property in which a variance is being sought. The variances will consider a dwelling less than 50 feet from the wetlands, less than a 45000 sq. ft lot, the lot also has less than 150-foot frontage and will be too close to the abutting property line. The owner is before the ZBA asking for a number of variances. A videotape showed an active flow of water that was very visible and audible. It was stated that this is like a river. The tax map indicated that it is not a buildable lot. The Commission will plan on a site walk this Saturday at 8AM. The property owner will have to seek variances from the ZBA and the abutter wonders where all of the water is going to go.

**Evasive cost**

David Treat provided an update on the burning bushes. He said that it has spread everywhere and areas in which the invasive was removed, now has 1-to-2-inch seedlings. This has become a monoculture and is killing everything else. Neil Reardon is concerned about the insects and birds if chemicals are used. There was a discussion on which chemicals are being considered. Mr. Treat said that they are approved by the EPA and

DES. It will be professionally applied. It would be a targeted herbicide application. The bush would be cut and then the herbicide would be directly applied to the remaining stump. It is a very localized treatment and the chemicals would not be around long term.

The only other option is to remove the plants by hand, some of which are intertwined with other plants and stone walls. Mr. Lynch suggested using goats, there is poison ivy as well. Mr. Lovell said that goats can be an expensive way to eradicate invasive species.

Two trails have significant poison ivy. Mr. Reardon believes that people should just be educated about the poison ivy. Mr. Ebner said that he would support spot treatments. Mr. Reardon is against the application of chemicals. Mr. Treat expects that the application for poison ivy and burning brush would cost approximately \$1,900.

One member was concerned about the Monarch butterflies and that their food source, which are milkweeds. There had been a 75% reduction in Monarchs since the 1970's.

**Mr. Lovell made a motion to add \$1,900 to the budget to allow for that treatment. Mr. Ebner seconded the motion. Vote 7-0-0. Motion passes.**

#### **Warrant Articles**

Mr. Lovell suggested that the Commission draft a warrant article that would place land that might be at a risk for development into the Town Forest, which would protect the land. There are several parcels being considered. The Commission will meet again in December to prepare a list to go on the warrant.

#### **Maps**

Mr. Wilkinson has been in contact with Derry regarding the lot lines. He would like to make a looped trail but one of the abutters' properties might pose a problem. Derry is looking into a lot line change. He is waiting to hear back from them.

There was a discussion on stone walls and whether or not they are protected. It was believed that stone walls that delineate a property line need to stay. Stone walls that are on one's property but are a property line can be removed. Mr. Wilkinson recommended that people should walk the walls, as they are very interesting and other features can be found along the way. Many historic stone walls are already mapped.

#### **Adjourn**

**Mr. Lovell made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Reardon. The motion passed unanimously.**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20

The next meeting will be held on December 15, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sally Theriault