

# DRAFT

## BRENTWOOD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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Meeting of October 14, 2020

Members in attendance: Bob Stephens, Robin Wrighton, Lise McNaughton, Brian Silva, Andy Laroche, Jim Nishina

Selectmen in attendance: Phyllis Thompson

Alternates in attendance: Doug Cowie, Michelle Siudut

Public Present: Debbie Briscoe

Meeting convened at 6:31 pm

- Reviewed last meeting minutes. Wrighton made a motion to accept minutes as amended. Thomspson seconded motion. Motion carried.

- Town Properties/Easements:.

Discussion on Split rock properties. Mow upper and lower fields in alternating years. To provide prime habitat for wildlife. Bob Magnusson mowed the lower field. Stephens put a call into Mr. Magnusson. Field was mowed October 11, but after the first frost. Stephens to convey to Mr. Magnusson our intent to mow in alternating years after first frost or October 15, whichever is sooner, to promote wildlife (e.g., monarch butterfly).

Hunter on Stevens portion of Split rock was chased and treed by two dogs that were running loose. Bob Stephens mentioned it to the Selectmen at Selectmen meeting. Stephens to put in Brentwood Newsletter for people to keep their pets under control.

- Goals for the year:

Laroche and McNaughton volunteered to learn the statues for the Conservation Commission. New Hampshire Association Conservation Commission have a website that helps advise and provides information on the RSAs.

Need to review and comprehend Charter Mission and wetland regulations. Governor has usurped our authority to the planning and zoning boards by executive order in this time of COVID-19. Conservation Commission to be familiar with the wetland regulatons.

Stephens and Suidut to review and update the Brentwood Conservation Commission handbook. Wrighton typed out the handbook into a digital format. Thompson to turn in edits to Wrigton for consideration.

Town conservation files need to be secured. Stephens to put a lock on the file cabinet until files can be reviewed. There may be confidential/close-session items that should not be open to public. Public can request an appointment to review files with the Commission's assistance.

Stephens took over the Facebook page for Conservation Commission. Stephens is looking for volunteer to assist on maintaining the Facebook page.

Stephens revamped the Conservation Commission's cork board.

- Attendance and representation on other town boards or outside entities. Cowie is a member of the zoning board. Looking for volunteers for the planning board meetings. Thompson is a member of the Select board.

Three alternate positions need to be filled.

- Property Reviews:

Discussion on 110 Pickpocket Road. Antoine Allanore was not in attendance but reached out to Karen Clement. Mr. Allanore called the town office and left a voicemail that was sent to the Conservation Commission's email. Mr. Allanore wants to build a structure on his reserved lot. Has a 7 acre parcel with a 2 acre reserved lot. His question: "Is there a setback from the buildable lot to the conservation land?" Wrighton reviewed the zoning regulations and could not find anything that would address Mr. Allanore's question. Wrighton placed a call to Andrea Bickum in the Zoning board committee. Bickum could not find anything either that would address the question. Wrighton left a message for Glen Greenwood. Mr. Greenwood did not return the call.

Mr. Allanore question: "How many trees he can cut down and if he can place equipment on the eastment." The easement allows up to 15 cords to be cut per year. He suspects that construction equipment may need to go on the easement. Doesn't appear to be any language against construction equipment using the land. The only thing that was mentioned was if there was any land surface alteration and topography it should be restored. Thompson made a motion to empower Wrighton and Stephens to craft a response to his Mr. Allanore's inquiry. Nishina seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Siudut asked the board question if it's customary for Conservation Commission to do a site visit. This varies on different circumstances. Usually if the commission receives a complaint. If more than 15 cords are taken down then they would need a forest management plan and would need to be supervised. Conservation Committee to do a site visit during construction and at the end of construction. Wrighton will coordinate.

Discussion on Sig Sauer. There was a letter from the town engineer that described several deficiencies and missing information. The site review will go to the planning board's next meeting. Deficiencies were more of an administrative nature. Sig Sauer is proposing to build a classroom. No input from Conservation Committee is required.

Stephens tabled further discussion on the Sig Sauer proposal.

- Bills and Reimbursements

None to bring forward.

- Membership

- Selectmen approved of Michelle Siudut.

- Nonpublic Discussion.

None

- Other Business

Debbie Briscoe did a trail improvement on Split Rock. There was a complaint about holes. Wayne Robinson, Road Agent, taped around the hole. The hole was only about a foot deep. They appear to be drainage holes.

Resident Bob Magnusson mowed the field and made the paths wider. They also mowed around the perimeter of the field. They mowed the field with the hill.

Stephens wondered if the Commission should hire someone to do initial mowing of property. Property hasn't been properly maintained over the years. Stephens will speak with Bob Magnusson on how he feels about doing the initial mowing. Nothing to be planted after mowing. Paths to be mowed as needed. Committee would prefer not to do a spring mow.

Nishina made a motion to appropriate 200 dollars to pay for fuel for this year's volunteers to do the base line mowing and Wrighton seconded. Motion approved. If Bob Magnusson does not want to do it, or needs help, Doug Cowie has offered. Stephens to notify Magnusson

Discussion on Old Haigh Road. Old Haigh road is a class 6 road. There's a kiosk and a gate that leads to the Split Rock by the fields.

Deb mentioned that the path that leads from field 1 to field 2. The path is very wet. A path has been mowed that doesn't go over that section. It goes over where the drainage ditch was made. There's a culvert that was washed away into the woods. Trying to get people to use the new path that goes over the drainage ditch. Deb has had one offer to buy a culvert to be placed in the ditch. A suggestion has been made to either put the culvert back in or a bridge be placed instead.

Stephens tabled a decision at tonight's meeting. Deb said that it can wait next meeting. Stephens may assist with plans. Deb to send the plans digitally to the Conservation Committee.

The cork board in the back field was taken down. The cork board was broken in half. Appears to be weather related.

Motion made by Wrighton to adjourn. Seconded by Thompson. Unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted by: Brian Silva