

HOOKSETT CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Monday, December 14, 2020
Hooksett Municipal Building
Town Council Chambers

Cindy Robertson called the meeting to order at 4:30pm.

Present: Cindy Robertson-Chair, JoCarol Woodburn-Member, Phil Fitanides-Member, Deborah Miville-Member, Robert Better-Alternate, Alexander Walczyk, Town Council Representative (arrived at 5:12 pm)

Not Present: David Ross-Vice Chair, William Herlicka- Alternate, John Pieroni-Alternate

Staff: Leann Fuller, Administrative Assistant

Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

I. Consent Agenda

- i. Transfer to Conservation Account
- ii. NHDES Standard Dredge and Fill Wetlands Permit Application notice

JoCarol Woodburn motioned to approve the Consent agenda, seconded by Deborah Miville. Motion passed.

II. Meeting Minutes Approvals

- November 9, 2020

Deborah Miville motioned to approve the meeting minutes from November 9, 2020, seconded by Cindy Robertson. Motion passed. JoCarol Woodburn abstained due to being absent for that meeting.

III. Invoices

- i. Moosewood Ecological, LLC \$1,460.00

JoCarol Woodburn made a motion to approve the invoice from Moosewood Ecological, LLC in the amount of \$1,460.00, seconded by Deborah Miville. Motion passed.

- ii. Bear-Paw Regional Greenways Stewardship Invoice October and November \$1,450.00

JoCarol Woodburn made a motion to approve payment of the Bear-Paw invoice for October and November in the amount of \$1,450.00, seconded by Cindy Robertson. Motion passed.

- iii. Stantec Invoice \$228.50

JoCarol Woodburn made a motion to approve payment of the Stantec invoice in the amount of \$228.50, seconded by Phil Fitanides. Motion passed.

IV. Other business: Projects, Invoices, Etc.

- i. Merrimack Riverwalk Trail historical signs for the Brick Kiln loop

47 Cindy Robertson explained that Kathie Northrup contacted her about putting these signs on the Merrimack
48 Riverwalk Trail to explain the historical factor of the location. She has not provided pricing but insinuated that
49 the Historical Society might be willing to contribute some funds to the cause. Phil Fitanides had a customer
50 that was an avid hiker but had not heard of the Merrimack Riverwalk Trail. JoCarol Woodburn was going to
51 make sure all the town's trails are listed on "All Trails". Phil also recommended that the YouTube video of the
52 helicopter ride of Hooksett be put on the website. JoCarol will send the link to Leann Fuller.

53
54 Cindy Robertson moved back to the topic. The only information about the trail is located on the kiosk,
55 additional information would be beneficial. JoCarol Woodburn would like to see trail markers with distances
56 on them.

57
58 ii. SCA Work for 2021

59
60 Cindy Robertson was contacted by the SCA to get projects lined up for 2021. The SCA would complete the
61 work that was originally scheduled for 2020 but was cancelled due to COVID. Cindy agreed and chose a couple
62 weeks that would be beneficial to the Merrimack Riverwalk Trail after receiving the Technical report regarding
63 the mowing of the area. The SCA is to create the trail along the Merrimack River and then, if time allowed,
64 create the connecting trail on the Pinnacle.

65
66 ***Cindy Robertson motioned to approve a contract with the Student Conservation Association for 2021 to***
67 ***create a trail along the Merrimack River and, if time allows, a trail at the Pinnacle in the amount of \$10,500,***
68 ***seconded by JoCarol Woodburn. Motion passed.***

69
70 Phil Fitanides asked if any lawyers reviewed the contract and Cindy clarified that Primex did review it and
71 made some edits that were accepted by the SCA. However, the SCA does take full responsibility for the groups
72 that do the work and that is part of the contract.

73
74 iii. Update on Budget Committee Meeting

75
76 Cindy Robertson presented the warrant article benefits to the Budget Committee. Town Council did vote to
77 support the \$200,000 warrant article for the Merrimack Riverwalk Trail. The Budget Committee's focus is
78 different from Town Council. They did not have a lot of questions and they won't vote on it until January, after
79 their public hearing. Cindy did put together a piece for the newspaper and it was sent to the Union Leader and
80 Neighborhood News. Cindy is referring to it as the "Finish the Loop" campaign. It is important to get as many
81 people as possible to attend the Budget Committee public hearing in support of the warrant article. JoCarol
82 Woodburn mentioned that when the grant was received, she posted on the Hooksett Community Group
83 Facebook page and received a lot of interaction on the post. Cindy stated that the chair of the Budget
84 Committee was not present at the meeting but the gentleman running the meeting did not think this warrant
85 article will be favorable to residents because they just received their tax bills. However, there is a risk of losing
86 the \$80,000 grant. JoCarol Woodburn recommended a blog article.

87
88 iv. Keep it Native quote for Quimby Mountain Invasive Management

89
90 Cindy Robertson remind the Conservation Commission that Rue from Bear-Paw previously presented a few
91 different plans to mitigate the invasive species on the Quimby Mountain property. She did go out with Paul
92 Eaton and received a proposal for that.

94 Phil Fitandides would like to see a specification sheet regarding the herbicides being used as they can be
95 harmful.

96
97 Cindy Robertson also approached André inquiring if this work would require bids. Although André has the
98 authority to approve it, he did request 3 quotes. Rue did go out with two other companies and we are waiting
99 for those proposals.

100
101 v. Technical Report: Meadows at Hooksett Riverwalk Trail

102
103 Cindy Robertson was out on the Riverwalk trail with Steve, Naomi, and Tom Brightman. Tom sent the
104 Technical Report requested regarding species and the best time to manage the property. Cindy would like to
105 include this on the January meeting agenda after it is reviewed more.

106
107 vi. Other Business

108
109 Cindy Robertson updated the Commission on the beaver movement on the Merrimack Riverwalk Trail. When
110 Cindy was out there with Steve and Naomi, they were looking at the bridge built by Bennett and noticed the
111 beaver pipe, but the pipe drained the entire wetland. Naomi recommended getting money back because it
112 really was not built to appropriate specifications to work the way it should have. The beaver should have been
113 moved. It was a quick decision and went based on the recommendation from the company. Fish and Game
114 was contacted to look at it and provide a recommendation.

115
116 Leann Fuller told the Conservation Commission that beginning in January, all meetings will be in the
117 gymnasium.

118
119 Leann Fuller and Cindy Robertson received an e-mail from Bruce Thomas regarding a TAP grant. JoCarol
120 Woodburn mentioned that it has been previously applied for twice. The advantage to the application is the
121 grant is a lot of money, but the Merrimack Riverwalk Trail did not quite fit the category for it. If Phase IV is to
122 be built to connect to Allenstown, that may be a good fit for the grant. Cindy Robertson said that Steve
123 mentioned Allenstown is working on their part of the trail, which was surprising.

124
125 ***Cindy Robertson motioned to adjourn, seconded by Alex Walczyk. Meeting adjourned at 5:28pm.***

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127 ***Minutes respectively submitted by***

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129
130 ***Leann Fuller***

131 ***Administrative Assistant***

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Please see subsequent meeting minutes for any amendments to these minutes.
