# Lyndeborough Conservation Commission



9 Citizens' Hall Road Lyndeborough NH 03082 603-654-5955

DATE:	Thursday April 14, 2022
TIME:	6:30 PM
LOCATION:	Citizens Hall, Lyndeborough NH

### Meeting began at 6:35 PM

#### Attendance

REGULAR		ALTERNATES		
John Pomer (Chair)		Kris Henry	А	
Gregory Kreider (Vice Chair)	$\checkmark$	Margaret Hagen	А	
Kurt Berna	$\checkmark$	Sharon Akers (alternate)	Е	
Theresa Berna		Michael Decubellis	$\checkmark$	
Bob Howe (Selectman)	$\checkmark$	Ray Humphreys (planning bd alt.)	Guest	

A = absence, no notification

E = excused absence, notified before meeting

 $\sqrt{-}$  present

#### Minutes

- 1. Minutes from Feb 10, 2022
  - a. Greg motioned to accept the minutes as corrected
  - b. Theresa Seconded
  - c. Vote to accept was unanimous

#### Budget

- 1. Balance as of 02/28/2022, \$17,879.46
- 2. Balance as of 03/31/2022, \$17,880.77

#### Mail

- 1. Society for Protection of NH Forests asking for donation (min \$50)
- 2. John will check budget to see if this is included. Will add to next Months agenda to review the membership requests.

## Old and/or Ongoing Business (Projects)

- 1. Wetlands buffer language update
  - a. Planning board established a subcommittee to review wetlands buffer language and to develop resource (map) that identifies the wetland areas so that it can be referenced by public and building inspector
  - b. Planning board has goal to develop language this summer and release for public hearings in the fall
  - c. Planning board requested that con com revisit the wetland definitions in the zoning language, specifically section 1000.01

- i. Action item John to contact NRPC to request sample wetlands zoning language and how to reference the district (i.e. GIS mapping or other resources)
- ii. Theresa to research the language from adjacent towns zoning
- iii. Review zoning language at next meeting, then meet with planning board to align on definitions (potentially in June)
- 2. Trail Forest Easement
  - a. Language was drafted with the Piscataquog Land Conservancy (PLC) and tabled during Covid (Mid 2022)
  - b. Kurt will forward the latest version to commission members
  - c. Document review to be added to next month agenda to draft version for review by PLC
  - d. Present document to Selectmen with the goal of having available for public hearings this fall
- 3. Trail Easement to maintain public access to town resources
  - Commission created list of properties of high value to maintain public access; (Winn Mt, Purgatory Falls, Pinnacle Mt, ridgeline from Pinnacle to Rose Mt, Emory Road), and currently researching the process to protect trails and access over public and private properties
  - b. Greg reached out to several resources and shared his findings:
    - i. The PLC has no experience with trail easements or any contacts for resources, they are not interested in trail easements as their focus is on land conservation
    - ii. SPNHF has an easement monitoring team, a staff member Naomi Brattlof noted that they have a property with a trail easement that they supported, some state properties have trail easements, and they are open to the idea to adding trail easements to properties already under a conservation easement.
    - iii. Upper Valley Trails Alliance (UVTA), based out of Norwich VT, member Russell Hirschler noted that they are focused on just trails, he noted that a trail easement is just like conservation easement and they as an organization monitor the easements
  - c. Kurt reached out to the Friends of the Wapack org and shared his findings:
    - i. Wapack provided samples of properties that included a "public trail corridor" language in the conservation deed that included a buffer area protecting the trail and
    - ii. They identify who will maintain the trail, often a trail maintenance group or conservation organization, not responsibility of landowner
    - iii. Option to create a "License" that establishes rules for trail use and keep trail open for public use, either party can revoke the license (landowner or licensee) Licensee is point of contact for disputes and general oversight, removing burden from landowner.
    - iv. Abandoned town roads can be reclassified as trails to maintain public access but limit vehicle traffic

v. The Wapack is available for additional support

#### **New Business**

- 1. Town Cleanup (April 16-30)
  - a. Town to provide truck at Citizen's Hall for residents to dispose of bags and other roadside debris.
  - b. Blue bags are available at town hall
  - c. Con Com to advertise on Town website and any appropriate local Facebook groups

Next Meeting 5/12/22 at 6:30 PM Citizens hall

#### Adjourned: 8:27 PM

- a. Greg motioned to adjourn.
- b. Theresa seconded.
- c. Vote to adjourn was unanimous.