

Conway Conservation Commission

WEDNESDAY, July 8th, 2020 6:30P.M. DIGITAL MEETING.

Present: Chair Rob Adair, Treasurer Linda Kearney, Vice Chair Nat Lucy, David Weathers, Peter Minnich, Larry Huemmler, Pat Ferland, Tim Nolan, Dan Lucchetti (HEB Engineers)

Absent: Dan Lucy

The meeting was called to order by Chair Rob Adair at 6:33pm.

1. Approval of Minutes

Minutes for the **June** commission meeting were approved unanimously. Linda Kearney motioned to accept the minutes. Peter Minnich seconded. Motion passed unanimously, though some members did not vote due to technical issues.

2. Public Comment

No public comment was given.

3. Reports and Other Business

David Weathers: East Conway Access Relocation

To begin, the commission discussed a proposed access relocation to the East Conway Common Lands. David noted that the soil was the same in both locations, and the distance was identical. In addition, he informed the commission that the selectmen had already voted to approve (so long as the commission agreed).

After Tim Nolan noted that the surveyor should make sure that the path hugs the eastern edge of the right of way in order to ensure that a tractor-trailer has entry, David motioned to approve. Larry seconded, and no further discussion was needed. The motion was unanimously approved.

Tim Nolan: Lucille's Loop

Tim informed the committee that Lucille's Loop, a trail in the Marshall Conservation Area, had been worked out to the end – the trail had been gone through again, and re-smoothed. Given how poor the soil on the trail initially was, he was very pleased. He noted that the trail should be finished by the next day.

He then updated the commission on other forestry concerns – brush sawing at Shedd Woods, the Abenaki lands, pudding pond, and Hurricane Mt Road public land should be done. With no further questions, he finished this portion of discussion.

Daniel Lucchetti (HEB Engineers): Noris residence; Conway Lake Docks

Daniel Lucchetti of HEB Engineers informed the commission that the Noris family would like to build two residential docks on Conway Lake, off of the west shore of the lake, near Little Kate road. One was a 6ftx40ft permanent dock, the other being a 4ftx18ft seasonal dock. The property was a vacant land residential development with one house, a perched beach, and a set of stairs from the dock to the water. The secondary dock was for a proposed patio area.

As questions began, David asked the engineer about the state requirement for one water access point per property. Daniel responded that DES said that the design was permissible, and the requirement was one access point per 150 feet. Nat asked about the materials of the dock, and how the seasonal dock would be supported. To this, the answer was that it would be supported by wheels at the edge of the dock, and pulled out in the winter.

Nat also asked about the land end of the dock, and Daniel explained that the land end would be above jurisdictional wetland, crossing over. In addition, he explained that the plans called for selective cutting of trees rather than clear cutting, so as to not overdo shore tree cutting regulations. After further discussion about the grid-point system for tree removal, Rob entertained a motion to accept the request based on meeting shoreland protection rules. Linda motioned to accept so long as it meets DES rules. Pat seconded.

The motion was unanimously approved, and Daniel left the meeting at 6:58 pm.

Rob Adair: Pudding Pond Trail

The nature conservancy contacted Rob about the pudding pond trail that goes along the water, which apparently had flooded due to the rain and beaver activity. They suggested we relocate the trail to higher ground.

Rob noted that one section was a mess that got cleaned out rather nicely, with highwater making things impassible. It was noted that enough land is available to the east to relocate the trail to higher ground, and that the trail was moved some years ago due to similar problems. Peter said that he and Rob should go look at the trail before passing judgement. Rob noted that the nature conservancy was willing to do the trail work, and he and Peter decided to take a look at it before giving them the go-ahead.

David Weathers: Selectmen's Report

David provided the commission with the selectmen's report, with particular focus on the large silver maple at the Smith-Eastman landing. The tree had received a unanimous vote from the selectmen to preserve, with two recommendations – both the same treatment. The main concern was the dead wood underneath where people have been parking – once that was cleared up, hopefully mulch, aeration, watering, and nutrients can save the tree. Parking will be relocated.

Member Roundtable

Rob walked the flagged line between Black Cap and Cranmore, which will run parallel in order to cut down on traffic, and segregate the downhill bike traffic from uphill traffic. Everything looked good, and he got a certificate of insurance from the trail-building contractor naming the town as additional insured. With White Mt. Trail Collective funding, Rob said that he will keep a close eye on things.

Nat explained that the River Run Company (Joe Berry) is making a significant housing condo development proposed in North Conway, starting at the Nereledge Inn, going north along the tow of the slope, all the way to Shedd Woods. He noted that it will be 13 units in a compound unit, serpentine along the slope. Since it abuts conservation land, we should have been informed, and since it's within the purview of RSA 43's river distance regulations, the Saco River Advisory Committee (of which Nat is a member) should also have been informed. He noted that this will compound the pressure on the bridge, and Peter noted how the traffic in the area may be significantly impacted. Nereledge will be turned into a work force dormitory.

David resolved to do some research on what documents have been submitted to the town, and motioned to adjourn at 7:33pm. Peter seconded, and with that, the meeting closed.