

**TOWN OF HOLDERNESS  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES, April 11, 2023**

Larry Spencer called the meeting to order at 4:02

**Commissioners Present:** Larry Spencer, Shelagh Connelly, Ben Amsden, April Sargent and Bill Nesheim

**Not Present:** Anne Packard, Woodie Laverack

**Also Present:** Michael Capone, Town Administrator

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** February 14, 2023

**“Motion to approve the minutes as submitted “– Shelagh Connelly  
Second – Bill Nesheim**

**Approved: 5- Yes, 0- No**

**MAIL CHECK:** Mr. Spencer reviewed the mail: Spring 2023 issue of the Timber Crier, NHTOA renewal application and landowner class and chainsaw class program materials. Mr. Spencer instructed the Town Administrator to pay the NHTOA annual dues invoice once received.

**OLD ITEMS:**

1. Trails –It was noted that the SLA trails are closed at the moment, but the Conservation Commission trails remain open.
2. LWCF Grant Application –Mr. Spencer mentioned that he had received no response to two email inquiries regarding the status of the application. He mentioned that the Commission may want to consider seeking funding from either the LCHIP program or the Forest Legacy Fund. Ms. Connolly suggested that the Northern Border Council be considered as a potential funding source for the project.
3. Mr. Nesheim mentioned that Jim Frohn would be scheduling a hike on the Pilote property on May 20<sup>th</sup>. More details to follow.
4. Mr. Spencer reviewed some of the bills of interest in the current legislative session. Among them bills relative to remote meeting participation, funding for cyanobacteria mitigation and seasonal docks.

5. Mr. Spencer provided a report on the meeting of area conservation commissions. There were 16 participants equally split between in person and remote. There was discussion regarding how various towns secure funding for their commissions through Land Use Change Tax proceeds. Campton mentioned that they had recently opened a new conservation area in Town with trails and parking.
6. Earth Day event- Ms. Connolly mentioned that she will prepare an article for the event. She had spoken with the Holderness School regarding their participation. The Town Administrator mentioned that blue bags were available at the Town Office and the Transfer Station. In response to a question from Ms. Connolly, he noted that the Highway Department would pick up blue bags left on public roads.
7. Mr. Spencer mentioned that there had been little movement on the Campton side of the Livermore Falls project. He noted that the changes in personnel at the State level had impacted things, but there was a listening session coming up that may provide an opportunity for movement forward. Ms. Connolly noted that Senator Forrester had been a key player in that project so perhaps we should try to get a current legislator involved.

#### **NEW ITEMS:**

1. Mr. Spencer will prepare an article on microplastics for the Conservation Managers essay publication.
2. Mr. Spencer mentioned that online and in person wetlands course offered via NHACC and DES continue. Mr. Nesheim noted that he had taken three of the online courses to date and may take an in-person course depending on his schedule.
3. Town Meeting- The Town Administrator mentioned that a deed and agreement had been prepared for the parcel to be transferred to the SLCS. It will be reviewed by the Select Board at their meeting on Wednesday, April 12. Mr. Amsden inquired about the fireworks article presented at the meeting. The Town Administrator noted that the article was tabled and would be taken up by the Planning Board for future consideration.
4. Mr. Spencer reviewed the assignment for members to monitor the conservation properties in the next month.
5. Mr. Spencer inquired about following up on the knotweed project. Ms. Sargent mentioned that she had not been to the Transfer Station to check on the project area, but she would do so soon.

6. Ms. Connolly and the other commissioners congratulated Mr. Spencer on having the Town Report dedicated in his honor.

7. Mr. Spencer mentioned that he sent out a link for the Saving Special Places meetings.

Next Meeting is May 9, 2023.

**ADJOURNMENT:** With no further items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:51PM

Respectfully Submitted

Michael R. Capone  
Town Administrator