

**TOWN OF HOLDERNESS
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES, February 8, 2022**

Larry Spencer called the meeting to order at 4:07PM

Roll Call:

Commissioners Present: Larry Spencer, Anne Packard, Shelagh Connelly and Ben Amsden

Not Present: April Sargent, Bill Nesheim and Woodie Laverack, Ex Officio.

Also Present: Michael Capone, Town Administrator

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: December 14, 2021 – The minutes were approved as written

MAIL CHECK: Mr. Spencer reviewed the following items with those present.

Eversource Transmission Line Replacement Project Material – the Town Administrator provided an update on the project and noted that it would be reviewed by the Select Board under section 500 of the Zoning Ordinance. Any plans received from the applicant would go to the Conservation Commission and the Planning Board for review and comment.

Ms. Connelly suggested that the information on the project be put up on the website. The Town Administrator mentioned that was the plan.

NHTOA Dues Request-Ms. Connelly made a motion with a second from Mr. Amsden to authorize the payment of the \$70.00 fee. There being no further discussion, the Commissioners voted 4-0 in favor of the motion.

Grafton County Conservation District Plant Sale Circular – Ms. Packard asked to review the circular.

Forestry Society Monitoring Report for Twombly CE Easement

Granite State Tree Farmer Winter 2022 Newsletter

NHTOA Introduction to grading hardwood lumber course information

Timber Crier Fall 2021 Magazine

OLD ITEMS:

1. **Kiosks and trail maps** – Mr. Spencer shared an updated trail map with those present. It was suggested that the location for parking and the kiosk be shown on

the map. It was also mentioned that Town Farm Road should be noted as a Class VI Road to make folks aware of its rural nature.

2. **Mowing of open area and trail maintenance items** – no bill has been received for this work.
3. **Status of account at Meredith Village Savings Bank** – it was noted that the Treasurer was a signer on the account and the option of transferring the funds was being explored.
4. **Status of the projects at the Holderness School** – Mr. Spencer provided an update on some of the activity he has observed regarding the new turf fields and the retention pond projects at Holderness School. Ms. Connelly expressed concern with the work creating drainage issues and pooling of water on Mount Prospect Road. The Town Administrator will follow up with the Road Agent on this.

NEW ITEMS:

5. **Important legislative items before the NH House and Senate** – Mr. Spencer reviewed and the Commissioners discussed some of the legislation of interest to the Commission. Of particular concern were the bill pertaining to prime wetlands and the bill pertaining to wakeboarding.
6. **Status of Ox Bow LWCF grant** – Mr. Spencer noted that assessment values for the properties were still being reviewed. He hoped we might hear something in the spring regarding the award.
7. **Riverbank stabilization project in the oxbow area** - Mr. Spencer provided an update on the plans for the new 25-foot buffer.
8. **Discussion of the regional meeting held in January** – Mr. Spencer mentioned that there were approximately twenty attendees from area communities including Plymouth, Rumney and Wentworth. Ms. Packard was present as well. She and Mr. Spencer both felt the meeting was productive and would do it again next year. Knotweed was a big topic of discussion.
9. **Winter trail days on the properties** – Mr. Nesheim was not present to provide an update.
10. **Getting ready for the Japanese knotweed project at the transfer station** – the Commissioners discussed some other options for treating knotweed infestation including formaldehyde injection and the use of black plastic for covering the cutbacks.

11. **Book Review—Planetary Emergency by Kent D. Shifferd** – Mr. Spencer provided a synopsis of this book. The first two sections were depressing and the final section provided some options for local control that might help mitigate our past transgressions.

UP-COMING MEETINGS:

12. Next regular Commission Meeting, Tuesday, March 8th 2022
13. Saving Special Places—April 1st and 2nd—Virtual Meeting

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 4:52 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Michael R. Capone
Town Administrator