

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

Larry Spencer called the meeting to order at 4:05PM

Roll Call:

Commissioners Present: *Larry Spencer, Bill Nesheim, Shelagh Connelly*

Not Present: *Anne Packard, Ben Amsden, April Sargent and Woodie Laverack, Ex Officio*

Also Present: Lucinda Hannus, Town Land Use Assistant

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *September 13, 2022 and October 11, 2022*

“Motion to approve the minutes as submitted “– Bill Nesheim

Second – Shelagh Connelly

Approved 3- Yes 0- No

MAIL CHECK: Mr. Spencer reviewed the mail, wetland permits, shoreland permits and other correspondence received with those present.

L. Spencer discussed the following items:

L. Spencer ok'd for payment one invoice, NH Assoc. of Natural Resource Scientists

OLD ITEMS:

1. Monitoring – S. Connelly stated that they need to collect ownership information and the files.
2. Trails – B. Nesheim stated that it didn't look like the trails had any maintenance recently, there was a tree down across the blue trail. Also stated that he thought efforts were being directed to other properties and a new crew of Ameri Corps just started working in the area. He also stated that he is going to begin work on the new signs now that the weather is turning. L. Spencer stated he needs to print more maps.
3. LWCF Grant – L. Spencer noted that he has heard that NPS in DC rejected their application because of the difference between the assessed value and the purchase price. NH will be petitioning the NPS to reconsider as they were in support of the application. Phil Friel is considering the donation of one of the Ashland properties to the town for tax considerations. L. Spencer believes they could resubmit the grant application as a purchase only with the Ashland piece as a match leaving a need for the

balance of \$168,000.00 for acquisition of the remaining parcels only. He is planning on meeting again with the Concord people in a week or so. S. Connelly asked if the town needed any other warrant items to allow for the conservation commission to purchase property? L. Spencer replied that the two warrant items recently approved are all that was needed.

4. Budget – L. Spencer would like to submit the same budget from 2022-23 for the 2023-24 fiscal year.

“Motion to submit the 2023-2024 budget for the Conservation Commission at the same funding levels as last year” – B. Nesheim

Second – S. Connelly

Approved Yes – 3 No – 0

5. L. Spencer stated he had spoken to Ken about project to install a parking lot and fencing on the west side of Livermore Falls. There has been no movement on the plans due to staffing limitations and hopefully next spring they can start.
6. PFAS Sampling Pilote Forest – L. Spencer indicated NHDES wanted to collect another set of samples at the town forest and they have given them the go ahead.
7. E115 Pole Replacement Project – Larry Spencer provided an update summarizing the progress he has observed at different locations around town and referred the members to the email and video he sent out. S. Connelly stated she had not heard any comments from the Northern Pass group and felt that the project was being done in a professional manner. B. Nesheim had heard from an abutter that was concerned with impacts to property values.

NEW ITEMS:

L. Spencer indicated to the members that he had been elected as Vice President of the NHACC and that the association put on a good meeting this year with several very interesting keynote speakers. There was a good turnout of in-person and virtual attendees, one in particular could be a resource for the commission to seek legal counsel on issues such as removing the barriers to transfer property, or a way to cover closing costs.

L. Spencer mentioned that they were seeking a column from the commission for publication to the membership. S. Connelly inquired as to the topic. Discussion on topics, such as Knot weed, trails, letting town's people know of what is in town for conservation land. L. Spencer indicated he will think of something.

L. Spencer advised the members of the two properties near White Oak Pond that the SLCS is acquiring for conservation. There will be no expense to the town, and will only need Select Board approval that has been approved on previous properties.

L. Spencer mentioned the Cyanobacteria bloom on White Oak Pond this past summer. The commission would like to suggest that maybe the WOPWA do a study of the septic systems in the watershed. L. Spencer asked if the town monitoring well was still being sampled at the transfer station. L. Hannus will inquire of the town administrator as to the status.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Lucinda M. Hannus
Land Use Assistant