

FREEDOM CONSERVATION COMMISSION
33 Old Portland Road – PO Box 227
Freedom, NH 03837

21 April 2020
7:00 pm

Remote access to this meeting was available through Zoom

Draft Minutes

NH State Proclamation: The proclamation was read.

Quorum Check, Roll Call, Approval of Minutes:

Having declared a quorum is present, the meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by Paul Elie.

Paul Elie Chairman – present - alone

Alice Custard Vice Chair - present – alone

David Straw – present - alone

Justin Brooks – present at 7:20

Matt Tyler - absent

Sue Hoople, Alternate - present – serving as a full member for this meeting. - alone

Mark McConkey , Jeff Nicoll, and Tava Nicoll are also present.

The following corrections to the minutes are noted: Cation has no space in it, Pg.2- 1st paragraph, Line 6 change that to “the” ; 4th paragraph – each “town” contributes – insert “to clean water testing”. A motion to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2020 meeting as amended was made by Alice, seconded by David.

Roll call:

Alice Custard – yes

David Straw – yes

Sue Hoople – yes

Paul Elie -yes

Review Applications

New Member Applications – Robert Oram and Jeff Nicoll. Jeff introduced himself and spoke about his reasons for wanting to join the Commission. His daughter Tava is working on a “Silver Award” **Girl Scout** project involving recycling and she wants to assist the Commission. After attending the last meeting, he is interested in what the Commission does for the Town, and feels that he has contributions to make. Alice made a motion to approve the application of Jeff Nicoll, Sue seconded.

Roll call:

Alice Custard – yes

David Straw – yes
Sue Hoople – yes
Paul Elie -yes

The other application is from Robert Oram. A motion to accept was made by Justin, seconded by Sue.

Roll call:

Alice Custard – yes
David Straw – yes
Sue Hoople – yes
Justin Brooks - yes
Paul Elie -yes

Election of Officers

Chair – Justin nominated as Paul Elie as Chairperson, Alice seconded.

Roll call:

Alice Custard – yes
David Straw – yes
Sue Hoople – yes
Justin Brooks - yes
Paul Elie -yes

Vice Chair – Jeff was nominated as Vice Chairperson by Sue, seconded by Alice.

Roll call:

Alice Custard – yes
David Straw – yes
Sue Hoople – yes
Justin Brooks - yes
Paul Elie -yes

Business Properly Presented to the Commission

Approve Invoices – none

A wetlands permit application was received from Mountview. They are looking to do sand replenishment for the beach. This is a major impact project. No tree cutting is involved. No action is required on the part of the Commission. The application is currently being reviewed by the Shoreland / Shoreline Specialists at NHDES. There is also a Shoreland Application for 151 Haverhill Street that should have come over from The Zoning Board. The application has not been received, but Mr. McConkey gave an overview of the project. The ZBA asked for them to push the project back 5 feet, but that is not possible due to ledge. Paul Elie will follow up with the ZBA.

Recycling Update

Sub-Committee: members & residents - Jeff Nicoll's background is relative to this. Paul suggests having a subcommittee to take on this initiative. He suggests that Justin, Jeff and Tava work on this. Sue Marks and Roberta McCarthy have also expressed interest in pursuing this. Paul spoke about the potential benefit of separating the metal, glass etc out. Food is a large contaminant in

the single stream dumpster. Other towns are dumping their recycling into the regular trash. Justin is concerned that more recycling will require more hands working on it. Paul hopes that the subcommittee will consider these ideas. Jeff confirmed that the market has crashed for recycled products. Justin feels that the only way to save money is to stop recycling. Paul asked about setting up plans with other towns. Justin has tried this in the past, but other towns have not been willing to participate. He feels that the recyclable market is affected by the price of fuel oil. Sue asked how the bottle deposit program works in other states. Jeff would like to work on this project, and start asking questions of others, renew conversations about how to make these renewable materials again. Alice agrees that giving up recycling would be sad. She suggests canvassing the town and asking if there is anyone in the town that would like to help pay for it in order to keep it going. Paul feels that we should form this subcommittee to explore what can be done. The Board is in agreement. Jeff feels that there may be options to be explored. Justin would like to work on this project as a whole commission, as opposed to a sub-committee. Jeff and Paul support this also. Everyone should do some homework on this for the next meeting.

Correspondence / Information

Septic Review Records – The Building Inspector has a new software program that will allow us to record shoreline septic system records. This enhanced feature is being requested.

GMCG VBAP, VLAP & BMP's – because of Corona virus, a lot of this has gone online, and the remainder has been put on hold.

Certified NH Water Testing Companies – DES has listed certified water testing companies on their website.

Ossipee Pine Barren Burn - Next month will be the joint meeting of the Conservation Commission and the Forest Advisory Committee. The town forester and The Nature Conservancy also plan to attend the meeting to discuss issues related to the Ossipee Pine Barren Burn scheduled for 2021.

Rules of Procedure – review for corrections and concerns.

Public Comment - none

Adjournment – Justin made a motion to adjourn at 8:10 pm, David seconded.

Roll call:

Alice Custard – yes

David Straw – yes

Sue Hoople – yes

Justin Brooks - yes

Paul Elie –yes

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Donaldson

Recording Secretary