

# Freedom Conservation Commission

Tuesday, 17 May 2022

7:00 pm - Freedom Town Hall

## Draft Minutes

1. Quorum Check, Roll Call – The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by Jeff Nicoll. Present are: Jeff Nicoll, R.A. Oram, Sue Hoople. Alice Custard. A quorum is present.

Public present - Rob Troon, Linda Mailhot

Rob is a potential applicant for the commission.

2. Approval of 19 April 2022 FCC Meeting Minutes – Add a category for public that is present. If the names are not available, add in the number of members of the public present. Page 2 – Dave George was present, add him into the members of the public present. We need a point of contact from the FAC to be present at the workshops should read Oram is the volunteer from the FCC. Alice made a motion to approve as amended, Oram seconded. APPROVED

3. Business properly presented to the Commission

1. Wetlands PBN for William Larson – this comes to us for review, and to sign off to waive intervention if we choose. The Commission has no issues with this. Jeff made a motion to sign the application waiving the right for intervention and send the application back to the owner, Alice seconded. APPROVED

2. Variance and Special Exception Application for Foss-Delorge Rev Trust – This is for rework done to a stairway to the shoreline. The pitch will be approximately 38%. They are proposing installation of 6 switchbacks. Crushed stone and pavers are planned. This is aggressive control of runoff. A letter of support for the efforts in mitigating the runoff should be sent. Jeff made a motion to approve this application, Oram seconded. APPROVED

Oram would like to compare other applications that we have received in the past couple of years. The letter would come from the Conserva-

tion Commission. Thank them for attention to detail. Environmentally sound. This brief communication to the owners showing appreciation for the efforts can be presented to the ZBA. Jeff made a motion to send this communication, Oram seconded. APPROVED

3. The Culvert Modernization Financial Feasibility Assessment; the first step of the Culvert Modernization Program - This was presented to the Board of Selectman at a previous meeting. They would like the Conservation Commission to review it and provide feedback to them. Last night they made their decision and they will not be pursuing the proposal as presented. This item has been removed from our agenda.

A Groundwater workshop is being held on June 1.

#### 4. Approval of invoices and contracts

Jeff received a copy of invoices that came from the FAC. They were distributed to the members of the Commission at this meeting. There is an invoice from Barry Keith , with a timesheet on the back. This was approved at the FAC meeting, but was not sent to us for approval. Jeff has reminded them about that process. Oram feels that once the public safety aspect of the trails in the forest is completed, the grid/area should be outlined on the time sheets to indicate what areas are being worked in. The FAC has recommended approval of the payment. Sue made a motion to pay the Barry Keith invoice in the amount of \$1400, dated April 26. Alice seconded. APPROVED

Barry Keith's contract was forwarded back to the FAC for review. They are still reviewing it. The Selectboard sent communication to Barry to let them know the status of that contract. The letter has a typo on the date. It was sent on the 16<sup>th</sup> of May. The Selectmen have requested that any further harvesting in the forest this year be put on hold. Minutes from the last FAC meeting were distributed to the Commission. The FAC minutes indicate that the FCC was still reviewing the contract. Jeff suggests that we should have a process for receiving information about the scope work being done in the Forest. This would have a schedule, milestones, etc. Oram is looking for notes on the nonpublic session. This is tabled for now.

Jeff also has some other items from the FAC meeting to discuss. The FAC is working on getting a Trex bench for use in the Town Forest.

The program involves collecting 450 pounds of plastic and it will come back to the Town in the form of a weather resistant bench. Sue made a motion that the FCC supports this initiative, Jeff seconded.  
APPROVED

Re: Old Home Week in the Forest. Oram shared a publication that was done for a tour in the Forest back in 2013/14. Amy Arsenault, program manager with the UNH Cooperative Extension was contacted by Melissa Florio, to see if she might be available for this. Jeff would like to have an expert that can come out for the tour. Oram spoke about the space restriction of how many people can fit on the buggy. There would be a charge for the services of the team and driver. Oram suggests doing it twice, morning and noonish. We will have to ask OHW Committee if they have any money to support this. Otherwise we will need to find an anonymous donor. Oram will find out if the team will be available. There would be a maximum of 30 people. Oram will make the contacts for this project. Sue will assist.

Jeff made a motion that we have a standard agenda item which is to review the FAC meeting minutes at our meeting. Alice seconded.  
APPROVED

5. Other business to come before the commission – There is a request for appointment as an alternate from Linda Mailhot. Alice made a motion to accept the request, Sue seconded. APPROVED

6. Public Comment – Ron Troon will share his information with the point of contact and will be considering joining the commission. He welcomes any feedback from the Commission about what each person feels is important, what drives the committee, and to then determine if it is a good fit for him as well.

Linda is very supportive of a tour of the forest. She is interested in going on a tour.

A motion to enter nonpublic 91.A:III C&E was made by Jeff at 8:29 pm. Alice seconded.

Sue – Yes

Oram – yes

Jeff – yes

Alice – yes

Regular session reconvened at 8:57 pm.

Jeff made a motion to seal the nonpublic minutes, Alice seconded.

Sue – Yes

Oram – yes

Jeff – yes

Alice – yes

7. Adjournment – Alice made a motion to adjourn at 8:59 pm, Sue seconded.  
The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Donaldson

Recording Secretary

## **Freedom Conservation Commission**

**Tuesday, 17 May 2022**

7:00 pm - Freedom Town Hall

### **Draft Minutes – NONPUBLIC SESSION**

A motion to enter nonpublic 91.A:III C&E was made by Jeff at 8:29 pm. Alice seconded.

Sue – Yes

Oram – yes

Jeff – yes

Alice – yes

The FCC and FAC met with the Selectboard. There has been discussion about the percentage of the forestry commission. Justin and Jeff gave their information to the Selectboard. The Chairman informed the committee that the Selectmen are conducting an investigation.

Followup on a legal question that Oram had – the BOS got legal advice on the question about ex-officio members having voting rights. The advice was that ex-officio members have full voting rights. Oram is concerned that the number on the Board is formed in order to prevent ties on decisions.

A motion to leave nonpublic was made by Oram at 8:57 pm, seconded by Alice .

Sue – Yes

Oram – yes

Jeff – yes

Alice – yes

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Donaldson

Recording Secretary