

## **Freedom Conservation Commission**

**Tuesday, 18 July, 2023**

7:00 pm - Freedom Town Hall

### Minutes

Quorum Check, Roll Call – The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Jeff Nicoll.

Present are: Jeff Nicoll, R.A. Oram, Sue Hoople. Alice Custard, Paul Elie. Linda Mailhot and Michele Keenan are absent.

Approval of June 18, 2023 FCC Meeting Minutes – Alice is under FAC instead of FCC.

Alice made a motion to approve as amended, Sue seconded. APPROVED

Review of July 5, 2023 FAC Meeting Minutes -

ZBA Application Review- Lindsey Archila & Denise Savoie – front line and side setbacks. No trees to be cut. Rear of house pitches toward lake. Consider runoff issue. No drip infiltration noted. Add general guidelines to ZBA letter. Vegetation, water bars, system to slow down water entering lake. Consider runoff to neighbor's property. Abutters?

Town Forest Land Use Application Review (FAC recommendation) add revision control if it is to be kept. Contact FAC Chair or Town Office. Clarify negative vote question.

Does applicant have to be at the meeting? Referencing last paragraph - subject to review by town lawyer. Is it statutory? Move to next meeting.

Tava Nicoll Girl Scout Gold Award Proposal (FAC recommendation) Alice made a motion to approve, Sue seconded. Invite Tava back to present final presentation before taking it to the Girl Scout Council. Suggestions - interview Oram and Rob Hatch. Scavenger hunt for young children. APPROVED 5-0-0

NRI project update – table this item

TNC Pine Barren update – concern raised was related to funding for the work. The office researched. It was voted in 2021 to raise \$5000 to be used for the burn to come from land use change tax account. It was carried over and expired. Do a warrant again or work with Barry to see if a Moose Plate grant or something similar can be used for our portion. We do not have an assessment/prioritization of what has to be done, can be done, and maybe should be done for the forest. Look at a 5 year plan and a 10 year plan. Plan on putting in a warrant for \$5000.

Oram made a motion to request a warrant in the amount of \$5000 from the land use tax change account to support the burn. Alice seconded. APPROVED 5-0-0

Alice made a motion to have Barry pursue the Moose Plate Grant for funds for the burn, Sue seconded. APPROVED 5-0-0

A Capital Improvements Plan for the Forest is needed.

Review of timber harvest draft contract and town purchasing procedure (FAC recommendation) Use Definition C from the Town Purchasing Policy. A contract that covers everything we want included needs to be drafted. Samples were distributed that were found at

the UNH Cooperative Extension. The Commissioner feels that the document provided is not adequate to meet the requirements of the Town procedure. Consider a simple contract with Barry, and a separate contract with the logger. Check Town service contracts. Clarify that payment will be made to the Town from the logger. Send contract to legal to be sure that it is protecting the Town. Jeff will seek legal advice. Jeff made a motion to submit the presented timber management agreement to the Town attorney for review prior to FCC approval. Alice seconded. APPROVED 5-0-0

Oram made a motion to take a service agreement and modify it to present to the agent, who will present to the logger that conforms to town purchasing policy for purchase of goods and services. Alice seconded. APPROVED 5-0-0

Grants from Moose Plate - Barry Keith / FAC recommendations – see above

Approval of invoices – two invoices from BH Keith \$525 May 1 to June 13, \$869.75 6/14-6/28. A motion to approve both invoices was made by Alice, Sue seconded. APPROVED 5-0-0

Other business to come before the commission – a postcard that was presented to Barry was reviewed. Is there a requirement to be a tree farm in the stewardship plan? This is costing us money, what do we get for this?

Public Comment

Adjourn – Alice made a motion to adjourn at 9:14 pm, Sue seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Donaldson

Recording Secretary