

**TOWN OF EPSOM  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
*Epsom Town Offices*  
May 18, 2023, 6:00PM**

**PRESENT**

Robyn Sweeney-Blaise, Chair  
Chad Decker, Vice Chair  
Kate Champney, Commissioner  
Samantha Lazo, Commissioner  
Meadow Wysocki, Selectmen Representative

**ALSO PRESENT**

Jennifer Riel, Recording Secretary  
Brenda Butterfield, resident

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Blaise called the meeting to order at 6:00PM.

**AGENDA REVIEW**

No changes were made to the agenda.

**Ms. Blaise motioned to accept the agenda as amended. Ms. Champney seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Meeting of March 16, 2023 – Postponed.

Meeting of April 20, 2023 – No edits were made. **Ms. Champney motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Decker seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

Ms. Butterfield stated she is interested in joining the commission. Ms. Wysocki stated appointments are made by the Board of Selectmen and asked that Ms. Butterfield attend the next Board of Selectmen meeting, May 30 at 6:00PM.

- **Deer Meadow Pond Milfoil**

Ms. Blaise stated an email was received from the Deer Meadow association, indicating the group is moving forward on establishing the association. They hope to have the process complete and plant o come to the next Commission meeting to discuss milfoil treatment on the Deer Meadow pond. Mr. Decker explained the State and Town of Chichester, along with Epsom, will be contributing funds to cover the costs of treatment.

- **Town Forester trail mapping and timber cut review**

Ms. Blaise stated the Commissioners are meeting with the Town Forester on Saturday morning to discus potential timber harvesting sites and expansion of the trail system.

- **Town Forest Camping Policy**

The Commissioner reviewed the edits made to the policy, as discussed at the last meeting.

Ms. Wysocki stated there is a permit and reservation form used by the Town for Webster Park reservations and stated she will begin drafting a form for the Town Forest. The Commissioners discussed numbering the sites so people can select the site they want to reserve. Ms. Wysocki suggested they look into having signs made for the sites. Mr. Decker stated there are burn pits for all the sites; it was suggested a sign also be placed indicating burn permits are needed. The Commissioners agreed to discuss signage options further when they are at the Forest on Saturday.

**Ms. Champney motioned to move the Town Forest Camping Policy forward to the Board of Selectmen for review and approval. Ms. Lazo seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

#### **L-CHIP Follow-up**

Ms. Blaise stated she contacted the Merrimack County Coordinator; it was confirmed that easement reports do not need to be submitted to L-CHIP as the only property in the Town forest is monitored by Bearpaw Greenways. The reports for all other properties in Town need to be maintained in-house.

#### **Earth Day Spring Clean Up**

Ms. Wysocki stated the bag pick up with smoothly with the Road Agent. Ms. Blaise stated all the trees were picked up for planting.

Ms. Wysocki stated she spoke with the Road Agent about concerns on the entry to the Town Forest; she suggested they mention to the Town Forester the concerns about the water and drainage issues to see if they have any recommendations.

#### **Next Meeting**

June 15, 2023, 6:00PM.

**Ms. Blaise motioned to adjourn. Ms. Champney seconded the motion. Motion passed, 3-0-0.**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:56PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Jennifer Riel*

Jennifer Riel, Recording Secretary