

**TOWN OF EPSOM
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Epsom Town Offices, 1596 Dover Road, Epsom, NH
October 19, 2023, 6:00 PM**

PRESENT

Robyn Sweeney-Blaise, Chair
Samantha Lazo, Commissioner
Meadow Wysocki, Selectmen Representative
Brenda Butterfield, Commissioner

ALSO PRESENT

Jennifer Riel, Recording Secretary – via telephone
Chuck Scheys, resident
Kim Gillis, resident
Phil Tomarchio, resident

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Blaise called the meeting to order at 6:14 PM.

AGENDA REVIEW

Approval of the minutes for the September meeting was postponed.

MOTION: To approve the agenda as amended. Motion by Ms. Lazo. Second by Chair Blaise. Motion passed unanimously.

Deer Meadow Pond Milfoil Update

Mr. Scheys gave an update on the plans; he stated since the last meeting, the organization has submitted an application for treatment of the pond to NH DES and that was completed. He stated they will review the bid before committing to the work but the bids have not come out yet; he explained its difficult to get firm cost estimates at this point. Mr. Scheys stated they are in the process of getting the required number (25) of signatures for the petition to submit it to Marine Patrol at the NH Department of Safety to have internal combustion engines prohibited from the pond as it can be form of transportation for the types of grass that transmit the bacteria.

Town Timber Harvest Update

Chair Blaise stated they haven't hiked the Town Forest since the work started but she received information that the work is looking good; the culvert work is almost complete. She stated a new type of soil was found by the forester who had it reviewed by a soil scientist and determined it was an old type of clay. Overall, the project is going well.

Ms. Wysocki asked if the parking lot is going to be expanded. Chair Blaise stated its isn't clear what is going to be done; the Commissioners agreed further detail and clarification is needed to know what will be covered as part of the project for budgetary purposes, if need be.

LCHIP and Property Monitoring Reports

Chair Blaise stated she was told that Bearpaw does all the easement monitoring and they aren't required to submit anything, but she will verify.

The Commissioners discussed the perambulation of all town boundaries that is required by law. Ms. Wysocki stated the Board of Selectmen reached out to an abutting town, but they haven't had the bordering town agree to do it yet. She stated hopefully it can occur next year when the weather is dryer.

Mr. Decker joined the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Meeting of August 17, 2023 – Edits were made. **MOTION: To approve the minutes as amended. Motion by Ms. Lazo. Second by Ms. Butterfield. Motion passed unanimously.**

Meeting of September 21, 2023 – Postponed.

Other

Mr. Tomarchio stated he is interested in joining the Commission and will submit the appropriate application to the Town Offices.

MOTION: To recommend to the Board of Selectmen that Phil Tomarchio be appointed to the Conservation Commission. Motion by Mr. Decker. Second by Ms. Lazo. Motion passed unanimously.

The Commissioners discussed possibilities for public outreach such as making presentations at the school, etc. It was agreed to discuss this further at the next meeting.

Next Meeting

November 16, 2023, 6:00PM.

MOTION: To adjourn. Motion by Chair Blaise. Mr. Decker seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jennifer Riel, Recording Secretary