

TOWN OF EPSOM
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Epsom Town Offices, 1596 Dover Road, Epsom, NH
February 15, 2024, 6:00 PM

PRESENT

Robyn Sweeney-Blaise, Chair
Chad Decker, Commissioner
Kate Champney, Commissioner
Brenda Butterfield, Commissioner

ALSO PRESENT

Jennifer Riel, Recording Secretary- via telephone
Meadow Wysocki, Board of Selectmen Representative
Alison Parodi, resident

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Blaise called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

AGENDA REVIEW

Ms. Wysocki added appointment of officers.

MOTION: To approve the agenda as amended. Motion by Mr. Decker. Second by Ms. Champney. Motion passed unanimously.

Appointment of Officers

MOTION: To appoint Robin Sweeney-Blaise as Chair. Motion by Mr. Decker. Second by Ms. Butterfield. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: To appoint Chad Decker as Vice Chair. Motion by Ms. Blaise. Second by Ms. Champney. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Meeting of January 18, 2024 – No edits were made. **MOTION: To approve the minutes as presented. Motion by Ms. Champney. Second by Mr. Decker. Motion passed unanimously.**

● ***The Getaway Trail Project***

Ms. Parodi explained the trails project on the Getaway property; the Commissioners reviewed existing and proposed trails. She stated there are water issues in some areas and it will be challenging; permission is needed from three property owners but the snowmobile club already has permission so Bruce Bly will look into the permission to put up trail markers for hikers. Ms. Parodi stated some of the trail markers have been re-blazed. There was discussion about who owned the property in the area and the lots that tie into existing trails as well as the work that

would be involved in developing and maintaining trails. The Commissioners agreed they would be in favor of the development of trails in this area.

The Commissioners discussed the parking lot at the Town Forest.

- ***EarthDay cleanup***

Chair Blaise stated Earth Day is the fourth Monday of April. Ms. Wysocki stated she will discuss with the Road Agent to coordinate with BCEP to take the garbage collected from the roadside cleanup event. She stated she will also gather the trash bags for distribution. The roadside clean up project will run through the fourth week of April. Notices and signup sheets will be posted at the Town Offices, the Library and social media.

- ***Scholarship ideas*** – Ms. Parodi stated she used to work with teachers at the school to identify students that would benefit from attending a conservation camp. Ms. Butterfield stated she will research camp options. It was agreed to discuss this further at the next meeting.

- ***Town Forest signs***

The Commissioners reviewed the signs that will be posted at the Town Forest for camping. Chair Blaise stated they can get other direction signs when the trails are finalized. It was suggested to have a kiosk with a QR code to access a digital map.

Next Meeting

March 21, 2024, 6:00 PM.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Riel

Jennifer Riel, Recording Secretary