Conservation Commission

MINUTES December 6, 2017

5:00 p.m. Upper Level Meeting Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. O’Hazo, Ms. Payne, Mr. Sabin

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. Bernard, Ms. Dupuis, Ms. Frank

ALTERNATES PRESENT: Ms. Bennett

ALTERNATES ABSENT: Ms. Quackenbos

STAFF PRESENT: Ms. Roberti

Mrs. Payne called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and seated

the regular members and Mr. Sabin for Ms. Frank.

Meads Donation (3+ acres), 77 Baldwin Hill

Ms. Payne referred to the 10/26/17 letter from Atty. Kelly proposing an open space donation to either Steep Rock or to the Town from the Meads. The property to be donated is an approximate 3+ acre lot at 77 Baldwin Hill Road. Steep Rock decided they did not want the property and the Housing Trust will accept.

MOTION: To support the Meads open space donation of the property located at 77 Baldwin Hill Road going to the Housing Trust. By Mr. Sabin, seconded by Mr. O’Hazo, passed 3 to 0.

2018 Conservation Commission Calendar

Ms. Roberti distributed copies of the 2018 Conservation Calendar and will also send it electronically.

Consideration of the Minutes

The 11/1/17 minutes were reviewed and there were no errors.

MOTION: To accept the 11/1/17 minutes. By Mr. Sabin, seconded

Mr. O’Hazo, passed 3 to 0.

Dobson Open Space Set Aside Documents

Ms. Payne said that Conservation needs to see the documents and the easement agreement to review. Mr. Sabin noted the owner and future owners were to be given a copy of the document and confirm receipt. Mr. Sabin will follow up.

Bazos/Tinker Hill- Review of materials submitted

A site walk was discussed. Mr. Bazos told the CC that any day is convenient. Mr. Sabin offered to go along with members. Ms. Payne suggested waiting until Mr. Bazos was farther along with his plan and at that time the CC will schedule another site walk.

New Preston Fund Raising

Mr. Sabin and his colleague Sam will sit down with a contractor and develop a menu of costs for individual elements, will then put together a summary. Based on that people can start thinking about who we want to approach for fundraising. Mr. O’Hazo asked if

Mr. Sabin thought items would be under or over $2000.00 which

Is unknown at this time.

Katherine Bennett arrives 5:40.

Katherine Bennett - New Alternate

Ms. Payne introduced Kathy Bennett to the members. Ms. Bennett provided a short biography and explained her interest in volunteering on the Commission.

Phragmities Removal All Habitat (permit 6/29/17 to 12/31/19)

New Preston Open Space

There was a treatment by All Habitat the week of October 20th.

It was noted that one of the neighbors near the eradication

area was confused about his property line. He thought

that All Habitat was on his property. An All Habitat map

entitled *New Preston Plains Open Space Washington* *Conservation*

*Commission* was distributed by the clerk. The parcel lines shown

in blackon the map were provided by the state.

November 30, 2017 NHCOG Meeting

Mr. Sabin provided a brief summary of the November 30, 2017

NHCOG meeting. The following were agenda topics:

* The New State Water Plan
* WUCCs, i.e. the Water Utility Coordinating Committee
* The new Morris LID (Low Impact Development) Manual
* Roundtable discussions - planning/zoning/conservation issues

that may be of interest to other towns

New Preston Open Space Management Plan

Betsy Corrigan, Field Biologist and a former CC commission

member told Ms. Payne that she would be happy to help monitor

the open space. Ms. Payne was pleased that a lot of good work

has been accomplished in the New Preston Open Space.

Viewscape & Tree Cutting – Goal to draft regulations 2017 – 2018

Ms. Payne suggested the Commission wait until more members were present to return to work on viewscapes, limiting tree clearing and ridgelines. Ms. Roberti printed and distributed copies of the following documents (previously emailed to CC members):

* Ridgeline Protection Discussion
* Ridgeline Zoning Subcommittee
* Ridgeline protection zoning regulations
* View shed thinning
* Slope regulations

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting. By Mr. Sabin, seconded by

Ms. Payne, passed 3 to 0.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 PM.

FILED SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Roberti, Conservation Commission Clerk