

WASHINGTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

MINUTES

November 6, 2019

5:15 P.M.

Bryan Memorial Town Hall

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Payne, Ms. Frank, Ms. Branson, Ms. Dupuis

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. O'Hazo

ALTERNATES PRESENT: Ms. Rawson

ALTERNATES ABSENT: Mr. Conroy

RESIDENTS PRESENT: Ms. Ray, Ms. Turoczl

CLERK: Ms. Buell

With a Quorum present, Ms. Payne called the meeting to order at 5:17 p.m. and seated Ms. Rawson for Mr. O'Hazo. Ms. Branson arrived at 5:30p.m.

Consideration of Minutes: 00:21

Ms. Payne asked for the following corrections to the October 2, 2019 minutes page two New Preston Falls, The Inland/Wetland Commission had approved the application by Albritten to clean up the trash, which has been done and was published in the paper.

***Motion: To Approve the October 2, 2019 minutes with the correction, page two
New Preston Falls, the Inland/ Wetland Commission had approved the application by
Albritten to clean up the trash, which has been done and was published in the paper.
By Ms. Payne seconded by Ms. Frank Passed 4-0 vote***

New Preston Falls Project: 2:20

Ms. Payne informed the Commission with the sad news that Mr. Sabin resigned from the Conservation Commission. The Commission members reviewed the resignation letter and spoke about the lack of communication between the different Commissions in town.

The Commission members had a brief discussion regarding the bridge at the New Preston Falls, whether the bridge can be repaired or if it has to be replaced. The original permit issued in October of 2017 with Inland/Wetland was for a repair. The Commission would like to put the project on hold until the spring

and meet with Inland/Wetland Commission to open up dialog about the bridge project. Ms. Payne received an estimate to remove the six dead ash trees that need to be removed at New Preston Falls They will be looking into getting a start card before the work begins.

Ms. Branson arrived at the meeting 5:30p.m.

The Commission members gave a quick update to Ms. Branson of what had occurred during the meeting prior to her arrival.

The Commission would like to go to a Board of Selectmen's meeting to try to achieve better communication with the Land Use Commissions. A letter will be written inviting the Chairman of other Commission on the various land use boards to attend the meeting as well.

Ms. Payne would like to formally Thank Mr. Sabin for his many years of service which started in 1995, they would like to extend their gratitude to him for all his hard work over his many years of service.

West Church Hill Road scenic: 17:56

Ms. Ray addressed the commission about having West Church Hill Rd declared as a scenic road. The town of Washington has paved 500ft of the road to prevent water washout from the severe storms that we have been having. She showed the members pictures, and drawings from Mr. Talbot and explained how the road meets all of the fourteen criteria to be designated, to be declared, as a scenic road. She doesn't want to see the road paved, and is worried about the traffic paving the road could cause. She will be going to Planning Commission meeting to officially put in the application to have the road declared as a scenic road.

Motion: To Support the application for scenic road status for the section of West Church Hill Road presented by Ms. Elizabeth Ray, By Ms. Rawson seconded by Ms. Dupuis Passed 5-0 vote

Tree Cutting Regulations: 34:00

Ms. Branson had the commission members review the latest copy of the Tree: suggested additions to Zoning Regulations. Ms. Branson read the changes that she made to the document. The Commission members reviewed and made suggestions for changes is the wording of the document to help prevent confusion. They would like definitions, and footnotes added to show where the information about native tress can be found. Ms. Branson questioned the procedure for trying to get the tree regulations added to the Zoning Regulations. Ms. Branson would like to have the Planning Commission to review the tree regulations, to get their endorsement for a change to the Zoning Regulations. Ms. Branson will make the suggested recommendations to the document and the Commission will review next month.

Cricket Valley Power Plant/Air Quality Monitoring update: 1:06:48

Ms. Frank reported that the Cricket Valley Power Plant Air Quality Monitors are up and working the data is coming in and it's in the cloud. Ms. Frank has been reviewing the data and said our air quality is very good. She would like to have a longer time span of measuring the air quality then present the data to the public. Cricket Valley Power Plant has started and should be running at full capacity in January. There are several town in the area that are also participating in measuring the air quality.

Solar Panel Regulations: 1:10:48

Ms. Payne would like to table this until Mr. O'Hazo and Mr. Conroy are in attendance. Ms. Payne did report on a Solar Seminar that she attended with several others. Mr. Furse was one of the speakers at the meeting and Ms. Payne would like to seek out Mr. Furse to help develop a model, solar residential regulations.

Historic District Commission proposed Demolition Ordinance: 1:12:20

Ms. Payne would like to table this until next month.

Other and/or Old Business: 1:12:50

Ms. Payne asked the commission members about possible replacements for Mr. Sabin. The Commission questioned if the permit was withdrawn or not, Ms. Payne will find out the current status of the permit application. Ms. Dupuis would like to reach out to Mr. Sabin to see if he will complete the New Preston Falls Project that he put so much of his time and energy into.

2020 Calendar: 1:20:40

The Clerk gave a rough draft of the 2020 calendar year for the Conservation Commission meetings. Ms. Payne took a copy and the commissioners will review at next month's meeting.

***Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m. by Ms. Payne seconded by Ms. Frank
Passed 5-0***

Respectfully Submitted,



Karen Buell
Conservation Commission Clerk
November 8, 2019

