

Chichester Conservation Commission
Minutes of Zoom Meeting of April 13, 2020

Call to Order at 7:19 by Bob Mann

Members in Attendance: Bob Mann, Jim Eggers, Zack Boyajian, Marianne DiTaranto, Blaze Konefal and Dawn Marshall

Guest: Tom Jamison

Bob read the declaration of the state emergency meeting protocol during the Covid-19 Quarantine.

Approval of Minutes: Zach motioned to approve the minutes as read and Bob seconded. All in favor (approved by roll call).

Mail Bag: Two statements from TDS, Approval of Grant funding from Fish and Game for the mowing of Shaw pasture.

NRI Upgrade Report: According to Zach: Everything is working well except getting the second drafts printed since the University is closed. The CCC will review the second draft if possible and Zack will check to see how Jeff Littleton may wish to proceed under the current emergency status. Perhaps the presentation could be postponed or the update suspended. The CCC will remain flexible.

Land Conservation: Zack Boyajian, Marianne DiTaranto, Bob Mann, Frank and Wendy Harrison walked the boundary of a potential conservation property owned by Bruce Cayer: The landlocked property obtained in 2014, near Lynxsfield Pond includes wetlands, some high dry areas and has been recently logged. There seems to be a discrepancy as to how much land is included. The property will need to be surveyed for an accurate boundary.

Due to the COVID-19 emergency, 5 Rivers Conservation Trust will not be able to participate in the easement management of the Humphrey property. The difference between a purchase of the property or placing a conservation easement on the property is only \$20,000. It might be in the interest of the town to continue to develop the rural/agricultural character of Chichester through a purchase. Further discussion with the Selectmen as to what is best for the town will be necessary if a purchase is possible. There are sources for funding available that could be explored. The CCC is on the Selectmen's agenda for April 21 and this matter will be discussed.

MSCA: Tom Jamison reported that there were a few blowdowns of trees where Frank had indicated the trail would go. This area would need to be cleaned up prior to continuing the trail. Per Bob, some work will be done on April 18 at Shaw Pasture. Magoon Tree Service will drop the damaged Ash trees on April 22. Perhaps the Cemetery Committee will need a few dead ash trees removed and may wish to speak to Magoon. Per Bob, we are accepting bids on removing the pole barn that came down. Mike Mobbs has located approximately \$400 worth of rocks that need to be removed. Bob will ask Mike to either bury or take the rocks off the field.

Spalding Town Forest: Gail found Blue Moon Environmental from Pittsfield NH who gave us an estimate of \$60 per hour, (approximately \$300) to mark the parking lot and delineate the wetlands. Zack made a motion to hire Nancy from BME to delineate the wetlands and mark the parking area for an amount not to exceed \$300. Blaze seconded the motion and after further discussion, all were in favor (by roll call).

Conservation Fund: Blaze will work with our new treasurer on our funds and accounts.

Conservation Easement: Blaze will watch the weather and inform the group as to when easement walks will be taking place.

Carpenter Park: Zack is looking at upgrades, trail reconstruction and minimizing disturbances to current trail maintenance. The park is open but the playground is closed.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:48 pm

Minutes respectfully taken by Marianne DiTaranto

Approved: 