

TEMPLE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes, December 11, 2019

Location: Town Hall, Annex room

Attendees: Ult Mundane, Adie Krulis, Scott Hecker, Cathy Joly, Honey Hastings, Lincoln Geiger

Missing: Sean Radcliffe, Carol Mamczak

Guests: Camilla Lockwood

Started at 7:00 pm

1. Lincoln moved that minutes from the November 13, 2019 meeting be approved. Scott seconded. All in favor.
2. Newsletter: aim to have it complete by Town Meeting in mid-March. Ideas for articles include (editor's note: gathered from the discussion of this and all agenda items, to have all ideas in one place): leaving snags in forests; ash trees, emerald ash borer, and trees' resistance; ant mounds; our mission statement; the importance of conserving land, farmland; algae blooms; trail info, planned hikes; pollinator gardens; *Scott will look through old newsletters and pull out stories that could be reused for our January meeting.*
3. Honey nominated Scott to be chair effective January 1, 2020. Adie seconded. All in favor; Scott abstained.
4. The group expressed their gratitude for Ult's work as chair and for reinvigorating our goals and mission. *Ult will share the current document with the group.* The goals and mission should be included in our newsletter as well as the town website and Facebook page, and should be reviewed regularly, starting in January.
5. Potential new members: *Adie will reach out to the Judds.*
6. American Chestnut Tree project: Honey shared that the Historical Society's plans for the museum at Schoolhouse #6 have Selectboard approval in principal, and the H.S. has presented a draft warrant article to be voted on at Town Meeting. Agreed that we will wait until after Town Meeting to present this tree project. Cam mentioned the possibility of a pollinator garden for the elementary school and wondered if the chestnut trees could be planted there. Scott mentioned that the

pollinator garden at Harris Center is a good model. Will continue discussion at next meeting.

7. Town Forest: this will become two separate agenda items. First item is Planning for Spring Work in Town Forest, to make a plan for trail work with dates; *Adie will invite Girl Scouts leader to attend Feb/Mar meeting to discuss how Scouts might help.* Second item is Forest Plan for Town Forest, to decide whether to pursue a forest plan and identify a subcommittee; *before next meeting, everyone should review Swift Corwin's forest plan example attached below.* Cam asked about LUCT percentage given to Con Com Fund; before we would ask town to change the percentage, we need to show what projects we are working on, how they benefit the town. Cam mentioned the Master Plan has been recently updated; the mission is to maintain "rural character", and the way to do that is to conserve land. Cam suggested having a speaker to explain the cost [to taxpayers] of development versus no cost for conserving land; will bring this idea to TCPC. Lincoln suggested he could write an article for our newsletter about conserving land, conserving farmland.
8. Conservation Fund: see the attached emails from town treasurer, Peter Allen. He will update us monthly or as new transactions occur.
9. Trail Maps: Adie shared that much of the existing trail data is too old to be compatible with current software. Does Sean have recent GPS data from trails in town? Will add this to Town Forest spring work so we can create an updated map. *Adie will also check with Linda Bollinger to see if she can help with gathering GPS data as she leads hikes* - and maybe get others involved in this project.
10. Scott Hecker Pond: our newsletter should include an article about algae blooms; we will revisit this topic next spring regarding Harris Center's new water testing lab on Norway Pond.
11. Affordable Housing: Adie explained that affordable housing means different things to different people; this was clear at Planning Board forum as well as within the TCPC; much of the initial dislike of affordable housing is overcome once people understand what it actually means and who it's for. TCPC members have been attending workshops on affordable housing to try to understand all the issues and will be presenting specific suggestions to Planning Board. The state has declared that we have an affordable housing crisis. TCPC is branching out into subcommittees to study broadband access, childcare, welcoming committee, how

to improve communication within town. *Cathy will change agenda item to "TCPC".*

12. Ult offered that agenda items could be phrased as a question to be answered, to make it clear when we're finished the discussion. Honey shared that the agenda has different audiences; the public just wants to see topics, but the questions would be helpful for us. Ult's list from his goals and mission document can be useful for keeping us on task, and reminding us to engage the public.

13. *Cathy will ask Paul what to do with non-public meeting minutes and form.*

The group adjourned at 8:36 pm. The next meeting will be Wednesday, January 9, 2020 at 7:00 PM.

Minutes submitted by Cathy Joly.

Italics above indicate tasks to be done.

Attached:

1. *Link to sample Forest Plan by Swift Corwin*
2. *Two emails regarding transfer and final balance of Conservation Fund*

1. The link below will bring you to the Keene, NH website, then click on "DRAFT GREATER GOOSE POND FOREST STEWARDSHIP PLAN" to see Swift's plan: <https://ci.keene.nh.us/ggpf>

2. Emails from town treasurer:

From: Peter Allen <templenhtreasurer1@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, December 05, 2019 12:41 PM

Subject: EOM Con Comm Statments

hello

your closing balance in PDIP Is \$120,748.69
interest earned in Nov \$154.18
total year to date interest..\$2163.15

closing balance in Citizens \$100.05
interest earned in Nov \$.02

let me know if there is anything else you might need.

my regards
Peter

From: Peter Allen <templenhtreasurer1@gmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2019 2:07 PM

Subject: Re: ConCom

per your last email,
please see attached doc showing transfer from Citizens to PDIP which will settle on
November 19th, for a total transfer amount of \$4500

a hard copy will also be in Treas. Con Comm file,

my regards
Peter