

TOWN OF NEWMARKET, NH
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

July 12, 2018

7:00 PM Council Chambers

Members Present: Patrick Reynolds (Chair), Marianne Hannagan (Vice Chair), Ann LaFortune (Treasurer), Cris Blackstone, Drew Kiefaber (Alternate), Sarah Finch (Planning Board Rep), and Casey Finch (Town Council Rep - Ex-Officio)

Member Absent: Andrea Sellers

Called to Order: 7:01 PM

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**

2. **Roll Call**

3. **Public Comments**

No public comments.

4. **Approval of Minutes**

June 14, 2018

Action

Motion: Patrick Reynolds moved that the minutes of June 14, 2018 be approved with an amendment.

Second: Marianne Hannagan

Vote: Approved 4-0-1

5. **Treasurer's Report**

Ann LaFortune had nothing new to report about the financial report and the members had no questions.

6. **Committee and Subcommittee Reports**

Town Council: Casey Finch had nothing new to report for this meeting. The TC only meets once per month during the summer and the next meeting will be July 20. The engineering report on the Macallen Dam will be presented in the fall and may appear on the ballot of March 2019. The Town water ban level may be increased (from 2 to 3), but a decision has not been made as yet.

Planning Board: Sarah Finch had nothing new to report for this meeting. The Chair reported that the letter from the Conservation Commission in support of the development at 81 Exeter Road was sent to the Planning Board.

Schoppmeyer Park Committee: Patrick Reynolds sent all the members a copy of the invitation to the Schoppmeyer Memorial Park Dedication to be held Saturday, July 28, 2018. He reported that there is no kayak rack on the property yet and Cris Blackstone reported that the signage is still under review by the Committee.

7. **Chairman's Report**

Southeast Land Trust Views: The Chair received the recent SELT Views and they mention the property on Neal Mill Road that the CC is purchasing as a partner on page one. <http://seltnh.org/>

2018 Conservation Commission Scholarship: The Chair was pleased to share a lovely thank you note from Spencer Blake, the 2018 recipient of the CC Annual Scholarship awarded to a graduating senior in

Newmarket. **Drew Kiefaber**, who presented the award for the CC at the award ceremony, reported that he was very surprised. Congratulations Spencer! Watch the ceremony at:

https://videoplayer.telvue.com/player/XSekdEeRsk0JHQVHAvKJVka7_5VjxKP/media/357428?autostart=true&showtabssearch=true

Correspondence: The Chair received letters from NHDES indicating the approval of wetland applications for the oyster reef project, the dock installation at Schoppmeyer Park, and a property Lincoln Ave.

8. Old/New Business

Dearborn Property – Survey: **Drew Kiefaber** has reached out again to Scott Boudreau and has not had a response.

Heron Point Sanctuary –Gate: **Casey Finch** has worked with Greg Marles, the Town Facilities Director, who has experience installing a similar gate for a town in Maine. The plan is to purchase an automated gate which will open and close at sunrise and sunset. A remote control will be in every Town emergency vehicle and has been approved by Chief True. Greg will be able to re-purpose the old gate with a new piston arm. The power pole is near the location and there will be a battery backup when necessary. Heron Point Estates Co-op members were contacted by email and five or six members responded positively to the plan. **Casey Finch** invited any members of the Co-op to attend this meeting if they had questions or concerns. Funding is streamlined because this is a Town project. The project could be completed in 2-3 weeks making Heron Point Sanctuary accessible again! Thank you Casey and Greg!

Action

Motion: **Patrick Reynolds** moved that the CC approve expenditure of funds in the amount of \$6,197.00 for the automated gate at the Heron Point Sanctuary parking area.

Second: **Ann LaFortune**

Vote: 5-0-0

Rockingham County Conservation District: The Chair contacted the RCCD to get clarification on the invasive species project discussed at the last meeting. RCCD defines ‘working lands’ as Town properties such as landfill or maintenance yards which might have invasive species issues. The Chair agreed to seek more information about schools and if they plan to use pesticides in the removal. The Chair will send an email to the TA about other Town properties which might qualify.

Recycling Discussion: **Casey Finch** brought up issues about “clean” recycling. The restrictions are making it very difficult to recycle and will require many more discussions as the costs and fines go up for the Town.

9. Adjournment

Action

Motion: **Patrick Reynolds** moved that the meeting be adjourned.

Second: **Cris Blackstone**

Vote: 5-0-0

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, August 16, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Frick, Recording Secretary