

Minutes of the Sugar Hill Conservation Commission January 19, 2023

The meeting started at 5:00PM. Minutes recorded by Larry Sawyer

In attendance: Chris Ellms, Charlie Wolcott, Claire Von Karls, Holly Hayward, Judy and Larry Sawyer

Guests were Wendy Vandanhoeck and Alan Laubenstein

CHARLIE made a motion to accept the minutes for December and JUDY seconded the motion. All approved.

After a brief discussion LARRY made a motion to give \$5,000 to the Planning Board to help with the cost of producing the 2024 Master Plan. This money will be transferred from our account into the Planning Board account by the town treasurer. This is not coming out of the Conservation Fund. All were in favor.

JUDY reported that we received a Notice of Intent to Cut for a property on the Toad Hill Road. Apparently a normal timber cut.

CLAIRE asked about Birches Road being a Scenic Road and according to the Master Plan it is. There are certain criteria that must be followed by utility companies and the Highway Department when trees need to be removed but we could find no restrictions to landowners cutting trees. HOLLY volunteered to get more information and report back to the Commission.

We discussed a Letter of Deficiency that was sent to property owners on Lafayette Road, Sugar Hill, Tax Map 221 Lot 7 from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services. This is a property in Sugar Hill but is accessed with a ROW across a property in Franconia. The landowner of the ROW reported damages to his property to DES. The proper permits were not applied for in Sugar Hill. The landowners lawyer asked the Commission via a letter if we would be monitoring the remediation to insure it is done correctly. Our feeling is DES should have that responsibility. We did decide to have LARRY contact the Franconia Conservation Commission to let them know what is going on and maybe have a joint meeting to inspect the property. He will update the Commission as soon as he gets in touch with them.

LARRY will ask for an update on the educational project between Plymouth State University and the Franconia, Easton and Sugar Hill Conservation Commissions.

CLAIRE reported that the committee for the Community Power program has not met yet.

ALAN asked what the SHCC mission is and that led to CHRIS asking members to check online and see what other New Hampshire Conservation Commissions have for their mission statements and report back at the next meeting.

CHARLIE brought up the Master Plan and we will start looking at what needs to be done at the next meeting.

WENDY and ALAN were asked if they would like to be Commission alternates and they said yes. We now have 5 members, 3 alternates and TIM is our alternate/advisor.

JUDY made a motion to adjourn and CHARLIE seconded the motion. All agreed.

The next meeting is February 16, 2023

