

Deering Conservation Commission  
762 Deering Center Road  
Deering, NH 03244  
Draft Minutes for October 16, 2023

**Attendance:** Gary Samuels, Mike Thomas, Tim Finn, Dennis Sawyer, Roy Watson (BOS), Kay Hartnett, Greg Sereni

Others Present: Kim Roy

**Call to order:** Meeting called to order, 6 pm.

**Minutes:** Minutes of August 14 accepted. Nonpublic minutes of August 14 accepted.

**Correspondence:**

A Request for more information, Shoreland Permit Application NHDES File Number 2023-01904, 106 Campbell Land, Tax Map 229 Lot 21.

UNH Extension Barry Camp Administrator

**Old Business:**

*Barry Conservation Camp.* The letter from Barry Camp Administrator Andrew Schafermeyer of 19 September 2023 concerning an occurrence at the Camp was received following a request from CC for information. The explanation of the Camp Administrator was accepted.

*Easement Monitoring*

Mike Thomas and Dennis Sawyer recently conducted easement monitoring of several properties. Discussion of impact of atv use on the environment. ATV use is not prohibited by some easements. Gary Samuels noted that ATV use, especially during wet seasons, has a harmful impact on the environment. Gary will draft a letter to all easement holders noting negative impact of ATV use on the environment, especially on landscapes near/abutting wetlands.

*Gregg Hill Nature Preserve update*

Update provided by Mike Thomas. Benches have been installed. Volunteers and staff from Hillsboro Youth Services will help in a work session at the Gregg Hill Preserve on October 24 at 3:30. Discussion of planting two newly developed pollinator plots using seeds and relocated plants. Discussion of installing pollinator plant beds around the kiosk. A big thank you to Dennis Sawyer, Kay Hartnett, Henry Bozek and Mike Thomas who cut trees to improve the view from the top of the hill. Also thank you to Leon Nelson for his valuable work this summer keeping trails open to the top of field.

**Motion** to expend \$47 for seeds to complete seeding of upper and lower pollinator plots. Motion by Dennis, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kay Hartnett. **Yes, unanimous.**

*Lake Host Report*

Gary Samuels will be taking over as local coordinator next season.

#### *Natural Resource Inventory*

Update provided by Gary Samuels. Plans are in the works to print several large maps from the recently completed Natural Resources Inventory and to have these available for use at the town hall. The NRI will be posted on the Planning Board tab of the Town website.

#### *Membership*

Greg Sereni has been approved as a full member by BOS. There is currently 1 full member opening.

#### **New Business:**

##### *2024 Budget Request*

Discussion of budget needs. Maintain funding of programs from previous year. Include \$500 for printing—NRI maps for use at town hall. Include \$2500 for surface water testing. Greg Sereni suggested organizing a water testing education program for private home owner wells. Discussion followed. Include \$2500 to facilitate development of and initial implementation of a private well program. Gary will be presenting the DCC budget for review by the Budget Advisory Committee at an upcoming meeting.

##### *Potential Projects for 2024*

Discussion of water testing programs—surface water and private wells.

##### *Watershed Overlay Ordinance Revision*

Mike Thomas updated DCC on recent discussions with the Planning Board regarding revisions to the watershed overlay ordinance. Use of inorganic fertilizer within the district should be prohibited. Discussion of use of organic fertilizers within the watershed overlay district. Discussions by the Planning Board are ongoing. Critical protections in the watershed overlay ordinance must be maintained.

**Meeting adjourn:** Motion to adjourn at 7:18.

Respectfully Submitted: Tim Finn