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**DRAFT MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 5, 2020**

**MEMBERS ROLL CALL:**

Marcia McKenna, Chair - Present	Bill Lord - Present.
Marc Ohlson - Excused	Emily Bass - Excused
Ralph Lutjen - Present	Ted Slader - Present

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Colleen King - Land Use Administrator, Moselle Spiller- Madison TV Videographer, Noreen Downs, Tim Nolan, Robert Stone, Joanna Lucy, Carol Kramer

**MEETING POSTED:** October 22, 2020 Town Hall (upper and lower), Madison & Silver Lake PO

**CALL TO ORDER:** Ms. McKenna called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Mr. Ohlson opened the meeting for Public Comment.

Noreen Downs introduced herself as the Madison representative to the Green Mountain Conservation Group. Mrs. King confirmed to Mr. Lord that his note was forward to Nancy Devine regarding the GMCG newsletter. The submitted date is September 11.

Mr. Ohlson closed the Public Comment portion of the meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Tim Nolan, Forest Land Improvement**

Mr. Nolan recommended a yearly brush-hogging of the Wold Lot and the Jackman Ridge Lot.

Timber Sale - Mr. Nolan reported that during the upcoming months, a timber sale could be done. A logger could access the area and construct a winter truck road and cut along the East side of Black Brook Rd. He needs to be given approval from the property owners, the Downs.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Lord, seconded by Mr. Lutjen to grant approval to Mr. Nolan to proceed with the timber sale this winter and then report back to the Selectmen. All Approved.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

**BARCLAY PROPERTY:** Ms. McKenna asked if the DPW could put up the sign and then an event could be planned next spring/summer to publicly acknowledge this wonderful donation from the William Barclay. Mr. Lord will follow through with the DWP Director. Mrs. King will contact Nancy Devine to find out the appropriate location of the sign.

**CASCADES:** Follow-up discussion on the condition of the Cascades Trail and the path behind the Historical Society Building. Mr. Slader made and erected 7 new wooden signs with arrows painted on them to direct hikers to walk around the building. Unfortunately, people are still walking down the sloped area behind the building. Ms. McKenna suggested a split rail fence might work and wondered if there might be a need for some mitigation. Mr. Slader suggested waiting until the spring and also stated that the trail itself is poorly signed. He will talk with Mr. Nolan about painting the trail blazes.

## **TRAIL MAPS**

Mr. Slader reported that 1400 maps have been used in the past 2 years. They have been at 7 different sites, with the Town Hall and Library being the 2 biggest users. Ms. McKenna confirmed with Mr. Nolan and Mr. Slader that there should not be any edits in the foreseeable future and a larger order of 3000 or 4000 maps would be warranted. Mr. Slader made a **MOTION**, seconded by Mr. Lord, to approve the expenditure up to \$600.00 from the Forest Maintenance Account to order new trail maps. All Approved.

**BAT HOUSES:** Mr. Slader reported that this will be discussed next year.

**BLUE BIRD BOXES:** The Boy Scouts are not sure if they will continue with this project. Mr. Slader cleaned out the boxes, which are behind the solar array and noticed that 2 of the 6 boxes had evidence of much usage.

**TREES ON WINTER ROAD UPDATE:** There are 2 monuments. The 1915 Monument has 3 small trees to be removed, the grass to be trimmed and wood chips spread. There were 3 shrubs ordered by Mr. Lutjen for this location but the planting was held up because there was an issue of ownership of the land. As of tonight, the site has not been touched and with winter approaching, the shrubs needed to be planted. Mr. Lutjen will keep the shrubs and will not be submitting a receipt for payment for these shrubs. Next spring, the shrubs can be addressed once land ownership is determined. Mr. Lord will address the land ownership with Mr. Cyr, DPW Director and review future plans for this site with the Veteran's Committee

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**September 3, 2020 Minutes** - Mr. Lord offered the following modification to the Selectmen's Report: "It was unanimously agreed that the Commission would support a joint action to repair the Silver Lake dam and boat ramp - for water, lake riparian buffer, lake bed, and aquatic species conservation purposes. It would be funded by tax dollars and perhaps a request to both Silver Lake Association of Madison and the Silver Lake Boat Club for contributions. It was suggested the Forest Management account could be used to support this purpose. The commission concurred with the project." Mr. Lord made a **MOTION** to approve the September 3, 2020, as modified; seconded by Mr. Lutjen. Approved.

**July 2, 2020 Minutes** - Mr. Lord made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes as written; Mr. Slader seconded. All Approved.

**March 5, 2020 Minutes** – Mr. Slader made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes as written; Mr. Lord seconded. All Approved.

### **SELECTMEN'S REPORT:**

Mr. Lord reported several items:

- a. The LUCT should bring in an additional \$20,000 this year to the Commission.
- b. The Selectmen have tentatively agreed to support the Commission's request for a \$5K warrant for future land acquisition. It is currently included the Town's proposed budget.
- c. The Green Mountain Conservation Group's quarterly newsletter, The Watershed, included an update on the Madison Conservation Commission's expanding look at conservation efforts across a wider spectrum. Lord provided the input.
- d. The conservation efforts of Madison fit nicely into the broader efforts of the US Dept of Agriculture's Conservation Stewardship Program which covers soil, water, air, plants, animals, energy, socio-economic, and cultural areas. Lord provided examples of the Town's work in all areas, except socio-economic. A good news story for our Town and Commission's work.
- e. Mr. Lord reiterated the Commission's previous position of support for the dam/boat ramp repairs for conservation purposes e.g., downstream aquatic plant life, lake-side vegetation and erosion, lake-bed repair, drought water level controls, etc. He reported the estimated cost fix both to be less than \$15K and the Town DPW could do the work. The NH DES dam engineering report will be used to direct the actions. The Committee reaffirmed financial support. Mrs. Joanna Lucy and Mrs. Carol Kramer were in attendance to support this effort and praise the Commission's participation in this effort.
- f. Mr. Lord will be now be the Commission's point of contact for the upgrade of the WWI tree plantings for the memorial on Winter Road. He will work with DPW to get to the rightful landowners, raising of the monument stone, and necessary clean up around the site.

The following action occurred during the September 3, 2020 meeting and was not included in the original minutes. This paragraph was APPROVED to be added to the September 3, 2020 minutes during the November 5, 2020 Conservation meeting.

"It was unanimously agreed that the Commission would support a joint action to repair the Silver Lake dam and boat ramp - for water, lake riparian buffer, lake bed, and aquatic species conservation purposes. It would be funded by tax dollars and perhaps a request to both Silver Lake Association of Madison and the Silver Lake Boat Club for contributions. It was suggested the Forest Management account could be used to support this purpose. The commission concurred with the project."

**PLANNING BOARD REPORT:** Nothing to report.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE CORRESPONDENCE:**

Mrs. King reported that Green Mountain Conservation Group sent their annual report regarding water quality testing along with their request for the \$1500.00 which the Conservation Commission has in their budget. Mr. Lutjen reported that the water lab work has been done by UNH and with testing results over the past 18 years, the data collected can be used to determine environmental changes and conditions.

Ms. McKenna read a letter of resignation from Nancy Devine. Ms. Devine has been a very active member for over 10 years. Ms. McKenna made a MOTION, seconded by Mr. Slader to order an

engraved box with the Conservation logo in appreciation of Ms. Devine's time on the Commission, with the funds coming from the Gift line in the budget.

Mr. Robert Stone and Mrs. Noreen Downs attended tonight's meeting and expressed interest in joining the Commission; Mr. Stone as a Full member and Mrs. Downs as an Alternate member. The Commission forwarded both names for appointment by the Board of Selectmen.

The Commission decided that there will be NO meeting in December and the next meeting will be on January 7, 2021.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN** at 8:35pm was made by Mr. Slader, seconded by Mr. Lutjen.  
All Approved.

**These Minutes recorded by:** Colleen King

DRAFT