

Barrington Conservation Commission
May 11, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

IN PERSON LOCATION: Town of Barrington (NEW TOWN HALL) 4 Signature Drive (1/4-mile North of the Old Town Hall) Barrington, NH 03825

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Barrington Conservation Commission Meeting – Virtual Access

[Meeting Access](#)

- **Remote Meeting Participation**
 - Video: barrington.nh.gov/ccmeeting
 - Call: [+1 603-664-0240](tel:+16036640240) (one-click link)
 - Conference ID: 666 455 706#

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ken Grossman, Chairman
Doug Bogen, Vice Chair
Dan Cassidy, alternate
Rob Gibson, Selectboard liaison
Anne Melvin, alternate

ABSENT

Gary Imbrie
Paul Panish
Jack Gale, Treasurer
Charlie Tatham, alternate
Jenny Stuart, alternate
Scott Heron, alternate

Call to order Barrington Conservation Commission (BCC) Chair Ken Grossman called the meeting of May 11, 2023 to order at 7:05.

Delegation of voting members Chair Ken Grossman confirmed the presence of members as above with Dan and Anne serving as voting members.

Minutes review and approval The minutes of April 27, 2023 were approved as amended.

Treasurer's Report (Jack Gale)

Interest of \$1060.41 and a balance of \$451,760.56.

NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS

- **Election of Officers** Ken made a motion to nominate Doug Bogen as Chairman. Anne seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by roll call vote. Grossman – yes, Cassidy – yes, Melvin – yes, Bogen – yes. Doug accepted the position. There will be more discussion of officers at the next meeting.
- **Goals for 2023** This will be covered at a future meeting.
- **Richardson Pond Study** SELT (as the easement holder) would need a ecological study of the pond before breeching could occur. Conner has put out an inquiry to DES to find out more about the feasibility of breeching the dam. Ken asked members how they would feel about having the CC hire wetland scientist Mark West to do the ecological study, and this was left

open as a possibility should a positive response come back from DES.

- Video recordings of meetings In the future meetings will be video taped.
- Nippo Lake development/ZBA variance (from minutes of April 2, 2023 Kevin Fitzgerald, a member of the Nippo Lake Association, brought two issues related to development around Nippo to the attention of the CC. One issue is logging (adjacent to the Landry property) currently going on, and Mr. Fitzgerald expressed concern with the logging as this is a sensitive area with steep slopes in proximity to the pond. He also expressed frustration with the lack of communication as to 'what is going on'. He stated that DES is reviewing the cutting. Another issue raised by Mr. Fitzgerald is the possibility of a house going in on a very small lot at the end of Flower Drive. He wants the CC to be aware of this as it seems that there would be many variances required for this building to take place. It was mentioned that this would be construction on a private road.) These issues are not settled, and it is anticipated that the building on Flower Drive will come before town committees at a future date.
- Purchase of lots 248-0001 and 248-0002 to expand Town Forest At the April 2nd meeting CC members expressed interest in acquiring the lots and await more information from the Lands Committee. Finalized costs were not set.
- Discharge of mortgage for the Landry property Ken has signed the paperwork.
- Ken Dudzik conservation project This potential conservation easement is moving forward and would cover parcels off Shady Lane that abut the Swains Lake Water District.
- Wetland buffer project This project to create a function and values wetland ordinance is moving forward, and a specific proposal from soil scientist Marc Jacob is expected in the future.
- Spraying for knotweed management Dan reported that knotweed is spreading rapidly on Daniel Cater Road. The cover and smoother method for eradication is not working, and spraying will be done in September. DES has approved a specific herbicide for use near a water body.
- Master Plan There will be a final meeting on May 15 for the land use and transportation sections. Doug mentioned that the committee is looking for volunteers to further study housing.
- Monitoring Doug had questions regarding the Ridge at Greenhill easement. He wondered if the CC had seen and approved the final agreement for the development and if allowing retention ponds in the open space was consistent with the aims of an easement. Issues noted during monitoring included a lot of construction debris ending up in the open space easement, runoff with not a lot of erosion control, land being cleared right up to the buffer line for three new lots, and what appears to be clearing in a wetland. Gary will be writing up the monitoring report and noting any potential violations. This report will be passed on to Conner for review and follow up. There was also a question about what town department is responsible for overseeing ongoing construction as it relates to honoring easements.
- Kayak launch Rob mentioned that the town is looking into installing a kayak launch at Richardson Pond and/or Ayers Lake. This would be done through a municipal boat launch grant that the Governor's office is putting forward.
- Young Road update This has been continued with the PB until June. Ken reiterated that the CC likes the idea of a conservation subdivision, but feels the proposed housing is too dense. This has been shared with the developer.
- Winkley Pond update This has been continued with the PB.
- Mallego Road Development Conner shared that the SB has asked the town's engineer to evaluate the open space during construction. CMA (the town's engineering firm) recommended an environmental site assessment.

CASES BEFORE THE PLANNING BOARD There are no new cases until 5/17.

Public Concerns

ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY PROPERLY COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Lands Committee, Trails Committee, Lake Associations

B. Isinglass River, Oyster River and Lamprey River Local Advisory Committees.

Many birds were shared for **sightings**, including broad-winged and cooper's hawks, eastern towhees, hummingbirds, orioles, bluebirds, a pileated woodpecker, white throated sparrows, six swans in flight, and herons in the rookery. Buckthorn, painted trillium, beaver, and a possible blandings turtle were also mentioned.

Ther meeting was adjourned at 8:20.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Lenzi