



Town of Merrimack, New Hampshire

Community Development Department

603 424-3531

6 Baboosic Lake Road

Fax 603 424-1408

Town Hall - Lower level - East Wing

www.merrimacknh.gov

Planning - Zoning - Economic Development - Conservation

MERRIMACK CONSERVATION COMMISSION

NOVEMBER 1, 2021

MEETING MINUTES

A meeting of the Merrimack Conservation Commission was held on Monday, November 1, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. in the Merrimack Memorial Conference Room.

Steven Perkins, Chair, presided:

Members of the Commission Present:

Gina Rosati, Secretary

Eric Starr

Michael Drouin, Alternate Member

Ellen Kolb, Alternate Member (arrived at 6:51 p.m.)

Members of the Commission Absent:

Michael Boisvert, Vice Chair

Cynthia Glenn

Gage Perry

Councilor Andy Hunter

Also Participating:

Christine Nazaka, 9 Danforth Road

Marc Gagnon, 10 Danforth Road

David Trippett, Member, Sklar Waterfront Park Sub-Committee

Chair Perkins designated Commissioner Drouin to sit in for Commissioner Perry and Commissioner Kolb for Vice Chair Boisvert.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

APPOINTMENTS - None

STATUTORY/ADVISORY BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

- Horse Hill Nature Preserve Sub-Committee New Member - Christine Nazaka

Christine Nazaka, 9 Danforth Road

Frequents the trails and is interested in volunteering. Asked what her preference would be in regard to length of initial term, Ms. Nazaka stated a willingness to begin her service with a three-year term.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER ROSATI TO APPOINT CHRISTINE NAZAKA AS A FULL MEMBER OF THE HORSE HILL NATURE PRESERVE SUB-COMMITTEE FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE JULY 31, 2024

MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DROUIN

MOTION CARRIED

4-0-0

Ms. Nazaka spoke of her understanding the sub-committee meets 4 times/year. She questioned how often the Commission meets and was informed it is twice monthly. There are two months of the year where holidays make it difficult and result in a single meeting. One of the primary functions of the Commission is to support the efforts of the sub-committees.

There being no objection, the Commission went out of the regular order of business to take up the matter of extending the terms of Sub-committee members.

- Extend Sub-committee Dates for Those Whose Terms Have Expired

The Commission reviewed the current sub-committee list. Commissioner Starr stated Messrs. Peterson and Mikolajczuk are no longer on the Sub-committee.

Marc Gagnon, 10 Danforth Road

Stated a willingness to move from an alternate to a full member for a three-year term. Asked how the Commission could best support the sub-committee, Mr. Gagnon spoke of discussions around increasing membership. He commented on having put up recruiting posters. With minimal membership, maintenance needs have been a challenge. In the past, it has been difficult to gain funding and resources. Some of the older items are aging and harder to maintain. A list was compiled of potential projects. The sub-committee will meet next on November 30th and will look to prioritize the list.

Chair Perkins spoke of an Eagle Scout looking to perform a project. Scouts look to have a point of contact they can meet with after school, which can be a challenge. Mr. Gagnon spoke of having supervised the crew for the last Eagle Scout project on the property and stated a willingness to participate in that way again.

Commissioner Starr stated the number 1 project is the Bowman Bridge. Commissioner Rosati noted the practice has been for an Eagle Scout to appear before the Commission to present a project and then go before the Town Council for approval. Mr. Gagnon is preparing to address maintenance items before the winter months set in, e.g., Bowman and several other bridges.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER ROSATI TO APPOINT MARC GAGNON AS A FULL MEMBER OF THE HORSE HILL NATURE PRESERVE SUBCOMMITTEE WITH A TERM TO EXPIRE JULY 31, 2024

MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STARR

MOTION CARRIED

4-0-1

Commissioner Kolb Abstained

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER ROSATI TO RE-APPOINT TIMOTHY ADAMS AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE HORSE HILL NATURE PRESERVE SUB-COMMITTEE FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE JULY 31, 2023

MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STARR

MOTION CARRIED

5-0-0

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER ROSATI TO RE-APPOINT HELYNNE WENZ AS A FULL MEMBER OF THE HORSE HILL NATURE PRESERVE SUB-COMMITTEE FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE JULY 31, 2023

MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STARR

MOTION CARRIED

5-0-0

The Commission returned to the regular order of business.

- Possible Subdivision of Lot on 69 Bean Road

This item was postponed until the next meeting as the property owner was unable to be in attendance.

OLD BUSINESS

- Merrimack Hike Club Update
 - The 2021 Season Plan
 - Funding

Commissioner Drouin spoke of the desire to gain additional guides to assist with regular hikes (weekly); would like to add full-moon hikes. Also desired is the addition of snow shoeing, which would require financial support of the Commission (\$2,500). Chair Perkins commented there has been interest in a snowshoe walk. The Commission has tried to plan walks but was unsuccessful due to weather. There is groundwork that has to occur in advance such as communication with the Police Department and Town Manager (there would be an exception to restrictions on parking at some of the parcels). Commissioner Rosati commented she purchased a pair of snowshoes for \$30-\$35. If doing a snowshoe walk, the participants should provide their own equipment.

Commissioner Drouin requested bug spray be provided for those performing maintenance on trails.

Commissioner Drouin suggested changing the name “Merrimack Hike Club” as it implies membership is required. He suggested it could be identified as a sub-committee as that would help with obtaining guides. Commissioner Rosati suggested existing sub-committees could be asked if there is interest in assigning member(s) to serve as guides.

- Invasive Treatment Plan
 - License to Apply Herbicide Application

Commissioner Drouin noted he spoke with the Department of Agriculture. It was explained to him the approach for utilizing herbicides to treat invasives would be to start at one end of a parcel and, if successful, continue moving into the parcel treating in sections/zones. Each year the prior zone would be inspected and re-treated as necessary before moving on to the next. Although it would take several years, the efforts would rid the area of invasives.

The County Forester has stated invasives, by law, cannot be removed from the property while alive. It would be dumped in what would be the last zone. When reaching the last zone, they would be eradicated. Commissioner Starr remarked we would be gradually closing off areas of the parcel from the invasive species and eventually eradicating them.

Commissioners Rosati and Kolb spoke of being pleased with the approach. Commissioner Drouin commented on a further discussion during which he was informed it is not necessary to spray the entire plant; it can be cut, and the stem dabbed with the herbicide. By using that approach, it would reduce the impact on surrounding vegetation. It is costly to hire a licensed herbicide.

Commissioner Drouin stated the cost of becoming licensed is approx. \$25 (\$5/yearly fee) with passage of an exam, and suggested the Commission designate a member to become licensed. Commissioner Rosati spoke of the need for a storage facility for the herbicide. Commissioner Drouin stated a willingness to undergo the process of becoming certified. Commissioner Starr noted, depending on the level of commitment required, he too would be willing to become certified.

Commissioner Drouin will gather additional information for continued discussion at the next meeting, e.g., level of time commitment to become certified, how herbicide is purchased/stored.

Commissioner Rosati spoke of the need to understand the area surrounding invasives noting the instance the Commission faced the last time herbicides were used, e.g., beekeepers who could have been impacted. She spoke of concerns with health risks of applicators, etc. It was suggested the education around licensing may address some of the concerns raised.

- Potential Purchases to Consider

Commissioner Drouin stated Vice Chairman Boisvert indicated Fund 53 has reached its funding cap of \$1 million. Chair Perkins noted Fund 53 is derived from the Land Use Change Tax. There are few parcels that remain in current use. When the property the Premium Outlets is located on came out of current use, the fund benefited substantially. Asked when the fund reached its cap, he stated that occurred during the past year.

NH RSA [79-A:7](#) Land Use Change Tax. – I. Land which has been classified as open space land and assessed at current use values on or after April 1, 1974, pursuant to this chapter shall be subject to a land use change tax when it is changed to a use which does not qualify for current use assessment. Notwithstanding the provisions of RSA 75:1, the tax shall be at the rate of 10 percent of the full and true value determined without regard to the current use value of the land which is subject to a non-qualifying use or any equalized value factor used by the municipality or the county in the case of unincorporated towns or unorganized places in which the land is located.

Town Code § 19-1 Fund Established - A Conservation Fund as authorized by RSA 36-A:5 is hereby established, to be administered by the Merrimack Conservation Commission subject to the approval of the Town Council, for the purpose of promoting the better utilization of our natural resources. The whole or any part of unexpended Conservation Commission budget appropriations shall be allowed to accumulate in the Conservation Fund from year to year and to be expended for those purposes set forth by statute.

§ 19-2 Ceiling; deposits - Pursuant to RSA 79-A:25 (II), this article creates a ceiling for the Conservation Fund of \$1,000,000. Upon reaching the balance of \$1,000,000, all current use funds collected thereafter will be deposited into the General Fund. If the Conservation Fund falls below \$1,000,000, 50% of all future current use revenues will be deposited into the Conservation Fund and 50% deposited into the General Fund until the Conservation Fund is replenished to a balance of \$1,000,000.

Commissioner Drouin questioned how much funding has been lost by the lack of spending. Commissioner Rosati commented the total fluctuates. We have not lost available funding due to having reached the cap.

Commissioner Drouin suggested the fund should remain below the cap to allow for replenishment. Commissioner Rosati remarked the Commission has not been in a position of believing it necessary to expend funds in order to avoid losing funding that may be available. Monies are expended when needed. Chair Perkins reiterated there are very few parcels that remain in current use. Commissioner Rosati stated the balance, as of June 30, 2021, was \$1,001,002.92. Chair Perkins noted a few expenses that have come forward, which has likely resulted in the balance being below the \$1 million cap.

Commissioner Drouin stated the Commission should ask the Town Council to lift the cap. He does not see a reason for a cap to be in place. Commissioner Rosati was uncertain of the reason behind the establishment of a cap. The general consensus of the Town Council has been there is sufficient conserved land. The consensus of the Commission is should a parcel become available that abuts an existing property, there is the desire to put the land in conservation. Those discussions are had with the Town Council. Chair Perkins stated his belief the way the Town Council has set up the fund is incredibly generous. He believes the consensus amongst other communities is that they receive less support from their town government; no location for meetings, assistance with meeting minutes/agendas, do not have a conservation fund that is near the equivalent of what this Commission has. He suggested the topic is likely to come up at some point during the Annual Conference of the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions. Chair Perkins commented on the level of support the Commission has received from the Town Council on matters of land purchase, etc.

Commissioner Drouin requested the Commission consider purchasing some sort of placard identifying individuals on Commission properties for specific purposes. Commissioner Rosati stated she followed up on the matter. The recommendation was that notification be provided to the Police Department when such activity is scheduled. It is likely that would have to be done even if placards were provided. This would occur in instances such as where an individual was to take a truck in an area where motorized vehicles are prohibited, etc. Commissioner Rosati suggested a note could be placed on the vehicle stating work being done on behalf of the Commission and individuals concerned should contact the Police Department with questions.

Commissioner Drouin suggested the following items to be worthwhile purchases: ID lanyards, hats for Commissioners, drone for monitoring or filming, trail cameras, Bobcat, etc. Commissioner Rosati noted there are business cards that commissioners can carry with them when doing trail maintenance, etc.

Chair Perkins noted specific items could be placed on future agendas, discussed, and voted upon. Detailed information would be needed such as use, cost, where it would be housed, maintenance, etc.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Subcommittee Updates

Commissioner Drouin informed the Commission the road at the Sklar Waterfront Park was fixed earlier in the day. The river is very high at the moment.

The Sub-committee has a workday on November 21st to expand the main parking lot. Asked if that would involve bringing down trees, Commission Drouin nodded in acknowledgment.

- Sklar Waterfront Park
 - Woodchipper Rental

The hope is that a woodchipper will be provided by the Public Works Department (PWD).

- Purchase of Picnic Tables and Benches

Commissioner Drouin stated the Sub-committee has requested funding for 2 picnic tables and 3 benches. The idea is to install the items during springtime and use this area as a test site to see if the items remain without being vandalized/mistreated. The items would be anchored to either Sonotube or trees.

Asked where they would be located, he suggested the high part of the Eagle Bluff Trail and near the river.

Commissioner Drouin stated the desire for approval of an expenditure. Commissioner Drouin will seek to obtain a quote for the cost from local sources. Chair Perkins stated he would inquire with the PWD as to where the Town has purchased these from in the past.

- Reimbursement for Materials, Tools, and Gas

Commissioner Drouin spoke of the generosity of a member of the sub-committee with the use of personal equipment. The desire is to compensate for gas and some amount (\$50) for maintenance. He questioned the need for receipts for reimbursement of personal equipment/gas he has used while maintaining properties. Not believing he can separate the receipt for items such as gas purchased when a percentage is used on Commission property maintenance and a percentage for personal use, he did not provide one. The total reimbursement he was seeking for members of the Sub-committee was identified as approx. \$600. He will send the request for reimbursement to the Chair.

Asked for additional details, Commissioner Drouin stated he was seeking reimbursement for use of the Sub-committee members' Bobcat equipment, gas used for the Bobcat and a chainsaw, etc.

The Commission spoke of the level of generosity experienced with volunteers. Commissioner Rosati asked if a request has been made for reimbursement. If not being done on a volunteer basis, there is the need for an invoice/receipt. Commissioner Drouin stated his point to be volunteers should not have to spend their own money on our properties especially when the Commission has \$1 million in the fund.

Commissioner Rosati questioned how this has been handled in Hudson. Commissioner Drouin stated reimbursement was not requested. They did not utilize sub-committees. Commissioner Rosati remarked she has been on the Commission for the past five years. If she needs bug spray, she purchases it, if she drives somewhere she will write her mileage off on her taxes but does not seek reimbursement. She sees it as part and parcel with volunteering. If a request has not been made for reimbursement, she is uncertain it is expected.

Commissioner Drouin spoke of the level of requests that would come if every member of a sub-committee had to request reimbursement for gas, equipment maintenance, etc. He would not want to have to deal with those requests. Asked if requests have been made, he stated they have not. He added he does not want members to have to pay the cost on their own.

Commissioner Rosati stated the need for additional discussion. Commissioner Kolb questioned if there is a process in place for addressing expenses. Chair Perkins stated clarification could be requested as he believes this sort of expense is something he believes would be captured in a budget line, e.g., expenses associated with a property being developed for public use for the first time. He noted Fund 53 is designed for land acquisition, maintenance, projects, etc.

Member Kolb remarked she can understand costs associated with someone coming onsite to clear trees in preparation of a road would be different from her heading down to get her bug spray for the season. If there is a procedure, she would like to understand what it is.

Chair Perkins commented he believes Merrimack like any other town would probably tell you if filling up your chainsaw or lawnmower do it at the PWD as it is pre-tax.

The item will be placed on the next agenda for continued discussion.

Commissioner Drouin spoke of litter being a problem on the property and the difficulty in gaining volunteers for clean-up days. He questioned if, on such occasions, the necessary tools are provided the volunteers. Asked for specifics, he cited gloves and trash bags. Chair Perkins stated trash bags are provided. Commissioner Kolb remarked the last time she participated in a clean-up day that was led by the Parks and Recreation Department, they provided gloves and blue bags.

Commissioner Drouin suggested a better quality of gloves (leather) is sometimes required. He spoke of an instance where the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps ([Sea Cadets](#)) came across needles. Commissioner Rosati stated they should not be picking up needles. Commissioner Drouin stated they used glass bottles that were thrown to contain them. Commissioner Rosati stated she has been informed by the Police Department that if coming across needles they should be contacted. They have told volunteers not to pick them up. Commissioner Drouin remarked it is an unnecessary danger if reaching for a pile of litter with plastic on your hand and accidentally grabbing a needle.

Asked who manages the roadside pickups (trash bags left after clean-up), Commissioner Rosati stated her belief it is the PWD. Questioned was the policy of the PWD in this regard. Chair Perkins will inquire with Kyle Fox, Director, PWD, as to what the department procedure/policy is.

David Trippett, Member, Sklar Waterfront Park Sub-Committee

Provided a presentation (copy attached). He spoke of work he and Commissioner Drouin have been doing at the Sklar Waterfront Park, and of having witnessed users of the boat ramp becoming stuck. The goal is to protect the boat launch area from erosion due to the use of non-stable ground. He commented on the safety concerns related to trucks becoming stuck in the mud and users utilizing kayaks and canoes getting stuck.

This area is the longest running northern ferry crossing (133 years of use). He spoke of the amount of activity that occurs at the park. The history of Thorntons Ferry was discussed. There is a large piece of history that is slowly being washed away.

The proposal is for a cement boat ramp to protect the area. A comparison was done with the boat launch the City of Nashua constructed. In 2016, the City of Nashua applied for a Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant, which was awarded in 2017. The total project cost was \$499,000. Of that, \$419,000 was contract work and \$80,000 performed by their DPW. Fifty percent of the cost was covered by the LWCF grant, with a 50% match made by the city.

Mr. Trippett commented there are different ways of obtaining the necessary funds; grants, fundraisers, etc.

Photos provided compared the Nashua boat landing to the Merrimack site. The boat ramp will solidify that part of the Town as a park and will give reference to Matthew Thornton and the history and commerce between the two towns. A commitment was made to Litchfield that Merrimack would put a park down there with Litchfield doing the same on the other side. We have sort of fallen short on our side. We can use this event to bring that back and say we will uphold our obligation.

Mr. Trippett stated the desire for the Commission to consider moving forward on a cement boat launch and explore opportunities for funding.

Commissioner Kolb questioned how much freedom the Commission would have with regard to activity in the area given the historical significance. Mr. Trippett responded part of the exploratory effort would include gaining answers to questions such as that. Commissioner Rosati noted Anita Creager is a member of the Sub-committee and is also a member of the Heritage Commission.

Chair Perkins stated New Hampshire Fish & Game has a budget for boat ramp replacements. Kyle Fox, Director, PWD and Vice Chair Boisvert walked the area. NH Fish & Game was not opposed to investing in a boat ramp in Merrimack but wanted to do the one further down near the Wastewater Treatment Plant as that access point was easier to reinforce and make larger. Commissioner Rosati noted the boat ramp is owned by the Town.

Commissioner Drouin commented Vice Chair Boisvert had indicated that Fish & Game passed this up wanting larger boats to be able to use their ramps. Large boats cannot traverse under the bridge. Mr. Trippett stated a 20' boat could get under the bridge. The problem he sees is, if hiring a large company to do the work, getting a cement truck onsite.

Chair Perkins recommended conducting a special meeting onsite and inviting the NH Fish & Game Commissioner and Director Fox to attend. He commented on having tried several approaches to this, and a willingness to try another. Mr. Trippett suggested if the level of enthusiasm for the project is raised, he believes creative opportunities for achieving the goal will come to light. The new ramp will increase the use of the park. He spoke of having encountered surveyors on the property recently who indicated they were looking to identify ways to increase the use of the property. Someone is looking at this area.

Chair Perkins suggested scheduling a special meeting for the February timeframe to improve the likelihood that NH Fish & Game would be available to attend.

Commissioner Drouin suggested making Mr. Trippett the contact person for this project. Commissioner Rosati stated that to be in the power of the Sub-committee. Chair Perkins spoke of the need to speak with Vice Chair Boisvert to gain his notes of where this project was last left with the Town. Commissioner Rosati remarked as this is Town land, there would be the need to take the matter up before the Town Council. Chair Perkins suggested Councilors be invited to the special meeting.

Mr. Trippett commented although under different ownership, it is still one town. He is happy to provide the proposal to the Town Council. Commissioner Drouin stated there is support from two members of the Town Council. Commissioner Rosati spoke of the railroad and an online meeting that has been scheduled. She felt it would be interesting to learn if they have to redo any of the tracks; if having to, perhaps they could raise the bridge. Mr. Trippett noted in Nashua they go over the tracks. When he asked if that could be done in Merrimack, he was told it would not be possible. If Nashua can do it so can Merrimack; just need to do the presentation.

Mr. Trippett commented although difficult to get through, that bridge is serving as a gate of sorts limiting the amount of traffic that can occur. Chair Perkins remarked he is surprised so many believe this to be the right location for a large boat ramp rather than the area two miles down the road. Mr. Trippett noted this area is right in the center of Town. It is a utilization issue.

Commissioner Drouin stated it is partially paved currently and is washing away. There is a safety issue in addition to the concern with erosion.

- Discussion to Purchase Mat for Boat Ramp

Commissioner Drouin spoke of a mat that is used by many communities for beach access. There are special versions for boat ramps (light duty/heavy duty). Light duty would be appropriate for this use and would serve as a band-aid until a permanent solution is achieved.

The property would be squared off and a basecoat laid down (although not required). The mat would stop the erosion and users from becoming stuck in the mud. It would be put down with spikes (requires 2 people to install) and has a two-year warranty. Useful life is 5-8 years. The mat is easily installed and can be rolled up in the winter (would extend life expectancy).

Mr. Trippett reiterated the goal of increasing the use of the park. Commissioner Rosati restated her only concern is that the property is not that of the Commission. Town approval is required. Commissioner Drouin stated the Town would gladly approve it.

The cost is \$4,000[±]. Commissioner Rosati suggested this aspect of the proposal could also be discussed in February. Commissioner Drouin stated the desire to have it in place in the spring and noted the time it would take for delivery.

Commissioner Rosati stated the desire to postpone a vote until full membership is present to participate. Chair Perkins stated he would like to visit the Salisbury State Park reservation area where one is located. Commissioners Rosati and Kolb reiterated the need to be certain of Town Council approval.

Commissioner Drouin stated he would go before the Town Council. Chair Perkins suggested he not do that on behalf of the Commission as it has not been voted upon. He stated the desire to learn more of the anchoring system, etc. Commissioner Kolb spoke of her appreciation for the information brought forward and of her belief it is worth pursuing. She would like to have the opportunity to visit the one at Salisbury State Park, would like to visit the other site that NH Fish & Games prefers, to know what we can do to get what is in Sklar going, and to understand the difference between what the Town owns and what the Commission owns.

Commissioner Drouin questioned if a vote of the sub-committee is required should the chair of the sub-committee wish to assign someone a task. Commissioner Rosati stated her belief it is not necessary although a nice gesture to send information out to the members of the sub-committee informing them.

Mr. Trippett questioned if he would be more effective bringing this project to fruition if a member of the Conservation Commission. Commissioner Rosati stated he could be on both. In order to be appointed to the Commission you must submit a letter of interest to Becky Thompson, Executive Secretary, Town Manager's Office. She will arrange for him to appear before the Interview Committee who would make a recommendation to the Town Council. He would be an alternate member to start.

Commissioner Drouin requested information be sought on how to get an idea placed on the ballot commenting, as private individuals, they will go around the Town Council if need be. Commissioner Rosati responded "not as a representative of the Conservation Commission."

Commissioner Drouin spoke of the extension to the parking area. Dirt is being scooped up for the bank; to square it off and make it look neat. Now there is a pile of dirt. They were thinking of spreading it into the ruts. Mr. Trippett stated there to be 2.5-3' deep ruts.

Mr. Trippet questioned how to go about getting a trail from the Depot Street boat launch down to this boat launch. Years ago someone started something and stopped. Commissioner Rosati stated there were private properties that did not wish to provide easements. The original plan was to bring the Bedford Rail Trail to meet the Nashua Rail Trail, but there were just too many instances of no access.

PRESENTATION OF THE MINUTES

Merrimack Conservation Commission. [October 4, 2021](#)

The following amendments were offered:

Page 1, Line 44; insert “years” before “prior”
 Page 2, Line 31; insert “sub-committee” before “meeting”
 Page 3, Line 16; replace “7-0-0” with “6-0-0”
 Page 4, Line 24; correct the spelling of “Grater”
 Page 6, Line 15; correct the spelling of “stated”

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER ROSATI TO ACCEPT, AS AMENDED

MOTION SECONDED BY CHAIR PERKINS

MOTION CARRIED

5-0-0

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Drouin stated he would bring cost items forward for the next meeting. Chair Perkins spoke of the importance of receiving specifics in regard to quantity, vendor, cost, etc. He commented anytime requests are made to expend taxpayer funds, he would be more supportive if more than 1 bid is obtained.

Commissioner Drouin reiterated he is not comfortable with the Conservation Fund being at its cap. We might be losing the few thousand dollars it would cost to do the boat ramp.

He questioned if members have seen the signs that were ordered for Sklar. They are good if you are standing in front of them, but if at a distance, you cannot distinguish the yellow from the color of the wood. Eventually the wood will oxidize, but he would like to request the wording on the main sign be made darker. Chair Perkins stated the subject of signage will be put on a future agenda.

The question was asked of the availability of an indoor meeting room for the Sklar Waterfront Park Sub-committee. Commissioner Rosati suggested Commissioner Drouin email Stefanie Brinn in the Community Development Department and let her know of the need to utilize the Memorial Conference Room and the dates.

Commissioner Drouin commented the sub-committee will be creating a ten-year plan, which is something he believes all properties should have.

Chair Perkins questioned the will of the Commission regarding recording the LCIP walk. Commissioner Starr offered to prepare the report if provided with notes. Commissioner Drouin will provide photos. Commissioner Rosati will provide her notes.

Chair Perkins reminded the users of the trails to wear hunter orange.

Chair Perkins stated the next agenda would include discussion of Chapter 111, which was presented to the Town Council.

Commissioner Kolb stated her intent to participate in the Annual Meeting of the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER KOLB TO ADJOURN

MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ROSATI

MOTION CARRIED

5-0-0

The November 1, 2021, meeting of the Merrimack Conservation Commission was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Submitted by Dawn MacMillan