



Town of Merrimack, New Hampshire

Community Development Department

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Planning - Zoning - Economic Development - Conservation

MERRIMACK CONSERVATION COMMISSION

OCTOBER 2, 2017

MEETING MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Merrimack Conservation Commission was held on Monday, October 2, 2017 at 6:31 p.m. in the Merrimack Memorial Conference Room.

Chairman Gage Perry presided:

Members of the Commission Present: Matt Caron, Vice Chairman
Michael Boisvert
Cynthia Glenn
Gina Rosati
Tim Tenhave, Alternate Member

Members of the Commission Absent: Councilor Jackie Flood

Also in Attendance: Beverly Kendall, 40 Ingham Road
Dennis Kendall, 40 Ingham Road
Jeff Liquori, SRS Petroleum Services, LLC
Garrett Piccirillo, MHF Design, Salem, NH
Chris Ross, Synergy Self Storage, LLC
Joel Sirrila, Synergy Self Storage, LLC

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

APPOINTMENTS - None

STATUTORY/ADVISORY BUSINESS

1. **Beverly and Dennis Kendall**

Presenting their proposal for the donation of a memorial granite bench to the Wasserman Conservation Area. The bench is in memory of their son Mathew Kendall.

Beverly and Dennis Kendall spoke of their desire to place a granite bench in the Wasserman Conservation Area in memory of their son, Mathew Kendall. An example of the bench design was provided. Chairman Perry provided a map of the desired location for placement of the bench.

Chairman Perry noted the Commission would have to provide permission for a motorized vehicle to be used to gain access to the area, and for the digging necessary for the pouring of concrete.

When asked about the timeframe for installation, Mrs. Kendall indicated they had been informed the bench could be made ready in a week's time. The residence has been sold, and the desire is for the bench to be placed before the end of the month. Vice Chairman Caron offered to be of assistance in

ensuring access when the time comes for the bench to be brought onsite and placed. Mrs. Kendall stated her son loved the area, and spent time there nearly every day. Mr. Kendall commented his son purchased the home, and built it up to its beautiful condition.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TENHAVE TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE PLACEMENT OF THE MEMORIAL BENCH IN HONOR OF MATHEW KENDALL
MOTION SECONDED BY VIC CHAIRMAN CARON
MOTION CARRIED
6-0-0**

2. SRS Petroleum Services, LLC (applicant/owner)

Review for recommendation to the Planning Board for a proposed 694 sq. ft. office space addition, along with the installation of two above ground fuel storage tanks and associated site improvements. The parcel is located at 6 Wright Avenue in the I-1 (Industrial), C-1 (Limited Commercial), and Aquifer Conservation Districts. Tax Map 4D-3, Lot 091.

Garrett Piccirillo, Civil Engineer, MHF Design, stated the property is bordered by D.W. Highway/Route 3 to the west and numerous retail uses and to the south by a currently vacant, undeveloped lot (zoned residential). The Merrimack River is within 1,000 - 1,200' east of the site. Horseshoe Pond is located approx. 700-800' south of the site.

The existing permanent structure is approx. 5,057 sq. ft. The site also includes a temporary 720 sq. ft. modular trailer. Proposed is the removal of the modular trailer and construction of a 694 sq. ft. permanent structure connected to the existing building.

Also proposed is the installation of an above-ground fuel storage tank (6,000 gallon diesel tank), which has been approved by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES).

Jeff Liquori, Vice President, SRS Petroleum Services, LLC, noted the storage tank is a single tank compartmentalized into two; 3,000 gallons of on-road and 3,000 of off-road diesel. The tank is a double-wall steel tank, UL rated to store fuel, and has a two-hour fire rating. The tank sits on a concrete dike that would catch any auxiliary spills that potentially could happen on the tank top. It has all the state-of-the-art containment for the fill as well as a single fuel dispensing cabinet within the contained dike area. It will also have a sump to address anything else that could potentially cause leaks such as filter changes, etc. In addition to that, there will be a full monitoring system, which will monitor both the double wall of the tank and the rupture basins for the fills and the dispensing cabinet. If any of those areas were to become compromised or leak an alarm would sound in the office.

SRS is a construction company that works throughout the New England region from Maine to Connecticut. This is one of their major hubs employing about 32 individuals in the office on Wright Avenue. It is a primary staging point for all their heavy equipment that goes throughout New England.

Mr. Piccirillo noted a portion of the site is located within the 100-year flood zone. Additionally, the site is located within the Town's Aquifer Protection District. No additional pavement areas are being proposed nor are drainage improvements. Currently runoff sheetflows off the site from west to northeast into the low area. There is currently no existing closed drainage system on the site (everything is over land flow). That will not be altered other than minor grading behind the building to keep things the way they are and prevent flooding of the building.

When asked about the outflow structure identified to the north of the building. Mr. Piccirillo stated it to be a foundation perimeter drain they wish to install once the permanent structure is put in. With the existing modular trailer, stormwater flows underneath. The intent is to place an underdrain to catch any stormwater/groundwater. It would be pushed out and outlet into riprap that will carry on into the

wetland. When asked about stormwater from the roof, Mr. Liquori stated it is currently flat (has some gables), there are gutters on the eastern side of the building that drain down onto the lower side of the east parking lot. Mr. Piccirillo commented it will sheetflow off the same way it currently does.

A full erosion/sedimentation control plan was provided to cover the construction process, e.g., stockpile areas surrounded by silt fence.

When asked if a stormwater study was asked for or completed, Mr. Piccirillo stated one was neither requested nor completed. He remarked he had a discussion with the Town, and was informed it was not necessary because the proposed project does not call for any increase in impervious area and existing drainage patterns are being maintained. He noted the application was on the agenda for the Planning Board meeting the following evening, and he would expect to be informed if that position has changed.

It was noted the Commission recommends the use of straw bales as opposed to hay bales. Plans should be amended to reflect the use of straw. Plan references reseeding and seed mix; however, fertilizer types are not identified. Because the property will drain into a wetland, the Commission recommends no phosphate, slow release nitrogen fertilizer. The suggestion was made that the soil be tested to determine if there is the need for use of fertilizers at all.

The question of how rainwater that will hit the tank and fall into the dike would be handled was posed, and the response was the engineering design work indicates a valve that would be used to periodically release water. The plans shows a pipe going through the dike wall for the release of water. Commissioner Tenhave questioned if water would be treated before being released, and was informed, according to the way it was designed, it would not be. Mr. Liquori added typically, the installations are not required to, it was done by the engineers as an additional safeguard. The tanks are double-walled, and all piping is protected. He stated his belief, at the time the engineer thought it would be a good practice to have it. It could be kept closed, and periodically, if water had to be released, that could be done. He added, arrangements could be made to include some type of filter sock or petroleum based absorbent sock when water is discharged. Commissioner Tenhave stated the release of petroleum is his concern.

Chairman Perry commented at the south side of the retaining wall the area is already scoured. He questioned if consideration is being given to installing hardscape to prevent further erosion. Mr. Piccirillo responded there has not been, but if a recommendation of the Commission that could be considered.

When asked about the dimensions of the pipe, Mr. Piccirillo commented he did a quick calculation on it, and it could hold up to 900 gallons of fuel. When asked about the other concrete slab (PLB Groove), he stated every 150 linear feet of the grooves will contain about 55 gallons. Typically, that calculation produces a certain number of gallons they can catch, which is typical of a truck or vehicle that would be resting on the mat fueling. The thought process is, if for some reason they have a problem, e.g., pull a hose off or something, and it leaks or even the fuel tank ruptures, you will catch some of it. You won't catch it all, but will catch some. Those are called the fueling aprons; they have the PLB Grooves, which is an ancillary form of protection for vehicles that are fueling. In addition to that is the tank mat, which has the short 4" high containment wall around it that the tank will sit on and be anchored to.

When asked about discharge within the dike, he stated it to be on the south side. Mr. Liquori stated it would be his assumption it would always be kept locked and closed, and accumulate liquid over time. Vice Chairman Caron commented it is in direct sunlight; water would evaporate.

When asked about the overhead roof storage structure north of the building, Mr. Liquori stated it to be an old structure that was inherited when the property was purchased. It is 2x4 construction with an

asphalt roof. It is in some level of disrepair. Some equipment used for installation work is stored there, e.g., filter fabric silt fence, silt socks.

Commissioner Tenhave recused himself from discussion on the following agenda item.

3. Synergy Self Storage, LLC (applicant/owner)

Review for recommendation to the Planning Board for a paved access road and its associated commercial use. The parcel is located at 403 Daniel Webster Highway in the I-1 (Industrial), Aquifer Conservation and Elderly Housing Overlay Districts. A portion of the parcel is subject to the Flood Hazard Conservation District. Tax Map 4D-3, Lot 084-01.

Chris Ross, Synergy Self Storage, LLC, spoke of the project constructed at 403 D.W. Highway noting they had gone before all the required boards, commissions, etc., were in the process of construction, managing a very large project in the absence of a management company, and experienced oversights. One such oversight was a list of comments from the Fire Department. The site plan includes parking spaces along the entire perimeter of the building. There were no windows on the back of the building. There was the desire for some sort of an access road going out to Wright Ave. The first plan showed a hammerhead at the end of the parking lot with just a wall. They went back and addressed those concerns, and added a window on each end of the floor on every floor. They also added an additional door requested on the ground level in the back of the building. They relocated the parking, and decided to go ahead and spend slightly over \$100,000 to put in the roadway. In doing so, they moved the parking down there as well as it was the most cost-effective thing to do.

Community Development has many photos showing where the stormwater of the abutter has been rushing from that site onto this property. It went down the existing roadway and flooded it out entirely. It was completely impassable. Fill had to be brought in to bring the grade up. It was paved for trucks to pass and to be able to maintain the road. When the Community Development department went onsite to conduct the final inspection it was brought to light that it was never put on the actual plan. It was discussed, and the concerns addressed, but it was never put on the plan. That is what is hoped to be addressed through this process.

Joel Sirrila, Synergy Self Storage, LLC, indicated the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) has already looked at it, and given their blessing. In order to get the Community Development Department to give final signoff, coming before the Commission was required.

Chairman Perry questioned if there is a long-term proposal for some type of treatment for water coming off there. Mr. Ross responded the way drainage was done on this site; by cutting down the water that was going down there, and the additional drainage that will be sought on any future development around the site, the only water on the site is the water that has been coming onto the property since day 1. He is trying to get the water from the other property to stop coming on to his property. Chairman Perry commented he visited the site recently, and in the area where vehicles will be parked there is no treatment for the water going into the wetlands. If a vehicle leaks, etc. it will all run into the wetland. Mr. Ross responded if you look at it that way you are correct, but it is no different than any other parking lot with ordinary vehicles parking on it. Chairman Perry remarked a lot of those have drainage basins and they go through water/sewer separators, oil separators, or grit separators when they are discharging stormwater into the wetlands.

Mr. Ross stated his situation is that SRS Petroleum has been a huge problem for three years, and he planned to address the problem the following evening in front of the Planning Board. Everything on that site comes rushing down, sheeting, not into the wetlands, but directly onto his property. They had to spend \$100,000 to bring in fill, excavate, and pave. The SRS Petroleum site has no drainage.

Mr. Sirrila remarked during discussion of the previous agenda item it was stated there is no drainage on that site, which is correct because the only drainage that addresses the issues from the site is drainage that his group put in on that section of the roadway that separates their roadway from the SRS Petroleum site. A swale was put in, lined with riprap stone.

Mr. Ross stated the waterflow is so strong that it has taken that stone and carried it down that trench. They have had to bring in stone and refill that basin three times. Mr. Sirrila remarked the roadway, as it is seen, was a byproduct of them trying to address the road being washed out.

Commissioner Boisvert questioned if the flow from the SRS site and the flow from the roadway is all going into the wetland. Mr. Sirrila responded it is somewhat under control; they put the swale in and lined it with stone hoping that would alleviate the problem. It reduced it, but did not totally alleviate it. During times of heavy rain, water still comes from the SRS site right over the stone trench and washes onto the roadway.

Vice Chairman Caron asked if the 2-3 parking spots along the roadway are primary parking spots, and was informed they are used as storage spots. Mr. Sirrila stated they had some parking near the building, and during the initial review with the Fire Department they wanted those spots eliminated and the space against the building left free for emergency vehicles. Because of having to put the road in, this was their way of reclaiming some of those spots.

When asked who did the original engineering of the road, Mr. Ross stated they had their engineer review it. It was evident what had to be done; needed X amount of width on the ramp, had to bring in the fill to make that ramp, etc. Chairman Perry questioned if they were aware of the 25' buffer, and was informed they are. Mr. Sirrila noted the ramp is right into the buffer area. There is a 12' elevation difference between the parking lot behind the building and the roadway. The length of the ramp was determined by the elevation change. Mr. Ross noted he went to the extent of hiring BAG Land Consultants to come out and re-flag the entire area to ensure they had not encroached on wetlands, and they had not.

Chairman Perry stated the Commission will have to make a recommendation to the Planning Board, and part of that will have to be some type of treatment of the stormwater even if only a berm along the edge so that it can be controlled through some kind of a filter, sand basin, etc. Mr. Ross stated he looks at the current condition as a dramatic improvement of what they were dealing with, and quite honestly one he was forced to have to do because of the problems they have been dealing with for 3½ years, and receiving no assistance getting it rectified.

Vice Chairman Caron reiterated the concern is if a vehicle is backed onto one of the parking spots and oil drips out of the vehicle, when the rain comes off Wright Ave., it would grab that oil, and direct it into the wetlands. A curb along the west edge would trap that. It was suggested there would have to be some kind of sand basin or something. However, the area is already so low, it is unclear where it would discharge to. Mr. Ross suggested the three vehicles that are located there could be moved thereby eliminating the problem. Chairman Perry commented there may be other alternatives. Mr. Ross responded they spent slightly over \$100,000 building the roadway. It will take 35 years if every one of those parking spots were filled, to recoup that investment. It will never be full. It is costing a large sum of money already, and he is nervous that is the direction it will continue to go in. He would rather look into removing the three vehicles that are there so that it is not a problem or perhaps they require those three customers and any future that have an engine to purchase some sort of mat that collects. Mr. Sirrila commented that would still not address any sediment and potential contaminants that come from the site next door. Mr. Ross stated that to be an issue that would have to be addressed with the Planning Board the following evening.

When asked, Mr. Ross stated they were required to go to the ZBA to get a waiver on the encroachment within the buffer. It was minimal and they received a 5-0 vote for approval. The second thing was for the project to be reviewed by the Commission because it is in the aquifer district, and the third is to go before the Planning Board. It is basically a formality at this point because they made the changes the Fire Department asked for, this works, and between wanting to meet their needs and dealing with the site next door this seemed the logical solution.

Chairman Perry commented he was certain the applicant could understand the concerns of the Commission; it is wetlands within the Aquifer Conservation District. Mr. Ross remarked when he purchased the property he spent 3 days cleaning the pond out; pulled tires out, lawnmower, etc. That pond has never been cleaner. Chairman Perry remarked it is a pretty small wetland that is very vegetated so there is very little water, but it is right on top of the aquifer.

Chairman Perry stated all the Commission can do is express its concerns to the Planning Board, and they will take those into consideration. There is nothing for the Commission to approve or disapprove as the action has already taken place.

Mr. Ross remarked both he and his abutter have a situation between the two sites, and some of those concerns need to be addressed so that both sites can operate correctly. Ultimately, if it will be show stopped he believes it would be a wise choice for him to take those few vehicles, and relocate them. He spoke of how diligent he is in protecting the property.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Vote to approve spending on the attendance fees for the 47th Annual NHACC Conference.

Commissioners Rosati and Boisvert stated they planned on attending. Commissioner Tenhave wishes to attend; however, stated he would not be aware of his availability until after the weekend. He commented, in the past, the Commission has permitted members to sign up until a date specific after which a check is sent to cover the cost. If others come forward after that time, the cost is handled separately.

The date after which the cost of attendance is greater is October 13th. It was suggested Commissioners wishing to attend register online and inform Sharon Haynes, Secretary, Community Development Department, by October 13th.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TENHAVE TO APPROVE THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS TO COVER THE COST OF ATTENDANCE AT THE NHACC CONFERENCE FOR ALL MEMBERS WISHING TO ATTEND. SOURCE OF FUNDING IS FUND 53
MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GLENN
MOTION CARRIED
6-0-0**

2. Schedule the 2017 Annual Wasserman LCIP Walk.

Commissioner Tenhave commented on the paperwork that requires completion after the walk has been conducted. He remarked ideally you utilize a GPS so that the area walked can be tracked. That information can be overlaid on some coordinates so the State is informed of the area walked. It is encouraged to cover as much of the property as possible or at least cover areas where you can see into the property and get a good view. They ask for general information, e.g., what did you observe, is there something that is different than the prior year.

Commissioner Tenhave commented last year the Commission was dealing with an encroachment on the property, which has since been resolved. It would be good to comment on that.

The consensus of the Commission was to conduct the walk on Saturday, November 11th beginning at 9:00 a.m.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Posting Sklar property

Destructive recreational uses seem to be expanding.

Chairman Perry spoke of the photos that were forwarded to the Commission. The driveway out to the parking area, once you get beyond the plains, is badly rutted up.

Commissioner Boisvert stated his belief it is understood the property now belongs to the Commission. Chairman Perry stated his impression there appears to be increased activity/roads going off into the woods. He believes it may be a matter of word being spread that there is an area available for four-wheeling. Commissioner Boisvert spoke of comments posted to the forum, and his belief that may be what is occurring.

Chairman Perry stated it would be beneficial to post the property. Commissioner Boisvert suggested a camera be placed as well. Commissioner Tenhave commented it would be nice to get concurrence from the Town Council that they support the same posting on the Town parcel. Commissioner Boisvert stated he would push ahead during the coming week to try to form a committee to try to at least protect that area. He remarked it is already known there is an abutter, Mark Twardoski, who wishes to support the actions of the Commission. Chairman Perry spoke of having received an email from Anita Creager, President, Merrimack Historical Society, indicating the society wishes to be involved.

Vice Chairman Caron stated a willingness to attend a meeting of the Town Council to speak on the issue. Commissioner Rosati questioned if her impression was correct that the Police Department has indicated they would have a greater presence in the area. Chairman Perry stated his belief the comment was they would be more active in some of the parcels. He does not recollect discussion of this specific parcel. Vice Chairman Caron suggested inviting Mr. Twardoski to attend the Council meeting.

Commissioner Boisvert commented supposedly the highlands of the Sklar property is a potential Eagle nesting habitat. He also noted Matt Casparius, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, has expressed an interest in the property.

The property is that of the Commission, and could be posted "no trespassing" if that were the desire. It is understood the signs will likely go missing. Commissioner Tenhave agreed however, added, the posting of the signage will start sending the message. It is a process where the Commission will lose for a while, and will win some. Chairman Perry commented if the signs are removed, the individual(s) will have stolen property. It is enforceable.

Commissioner Boisvert spoke of the destruction to wetlands that is occurring. Difficulty of enforcement of that issue, and the need for NHDES involvement with that was discussed. Regarding hunting on the property, Chairman Perry stated the Deed was changed, and there is no discharge of air powered weapons allowed on the property. He was uncertain if bow hunting was ruled out. Commissioner Rosati commented on it being deer archery season. The property is not posted.

Commissioner Glenn commented it is too bad it cannot be closed until things are set up. Chairman Perry stated he does not believe anyone is currently using the boat ramp, and if the Town wanted to close that road they could. Possible entry points were discussed. Commissioner Tenhave remarked

north of the parcel, there is a property that is not monitored well, and that comes in off Wright Avenue. Chairman Perry remarked private land owners with adjoining property have access to cement barriers, etc., and can put things up to block access paths if desired. He suggested that to be another avenue. There would be the need to determine how the property is being accessed to understand where such barriers should be placed.

Chairman Perry will request the subject of signage, etc. be submitted for placement on a future agenda of the Town Council.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Sub Committee Updates

Commissioner Glenn stated the next meeting of the Horse Hill Nature Preserve is scheduled for October 9th at 7:00 p.m. in the Merrimack Memorial Conference Room.

Vice Chairman Caron stated the next meeting of the Grater Woods Sub-Committee will be a working meeting at 8:30 a.m. on October 28th. The Sub-Committee will gather off the conservation cul-de-sac where some work will be done, e.g., removing silt fence from the road install project, restoration work.

Vice Chairman Caron commented the Outdoor Classroom bridge is complete and in use. They are waiting to hear if the Scout will be able to do the renovations on the Classroom this fall. Chairman Perry spoke of the undesirable activity currently occurring in the Classroom; benches have been moved into a semi-circle, and a fire pit located in the center. If work on the renovations cannot begin shortly, there is the need for that set-up to be addressed.

Chairman Perry stated there are now available four boxes (1,000 of each) of the new maps as well as the kiosk maps. The kiosk maps are about ¼" thick, and made of pretty solid material. Commissioner Tenhave stated the website would be updated during the week.

Commissioner Rosati was informed the information for the press release could be forwarded to Ms. Hayne along with a request that she arrange for it to be published. It was suggested a note be placed in the area of the maps requesting users return them when done. It was noted not all kiosks have map holders. There may be the need to acquire a few mailboxes.

Commissioner Rosati informed the Commission she spoke with Ms. Ostman earlier in the day. Ms. Ostman received approval from the Commission to place a memorial bench at the start of the Falls Loop Trail in memory of her Sons. Ms. Ostman was informed that Commissioner Rosati and Chairman Perry have been in contact with Rivet Funeral Home, which is the company that will construct and install the bench (two legs that would be epoxied to the top), indicating availability to provide access to the property when the bench is ready for installation.

Commissioner Rosati spoke of an email received from Karen Labonte, Wildcat Falls Sub-Committee, wherein Ms. Labonte indicated the Public Works Department (PWD) is willing to dig 3 ditches for the water bars to prevent future erosion along the connector 1 road/emergency access. Lori Barrett, Operations Manager, PWD, has indicated the department will deliver materials; however, it is necessary to first gain the approval of the Commission. The amount needed in materials is 360 cubic feet. Each trench is 2' deep by 3' wide by 20' long. The outstanding question is what specific types of materials are needed to construct the water bar trenches.

Chairman Perry suggested the Project Initiation Form be utilized, which can be obtained from the Community Development Department. The completed form should include a map depicting where the material would be placed. Vice Chairman Caron remarked he and Commissioner Tenhave visited the

area. The area they walked where the water bars would be placed is followed by a few very large trees. The water bars will stop the water, and the large trees will be there to protect that area. The trail that leads up to the landing is really emergency vehicle access (20' wide). Because it is 20' wide, and there is no drainage on either side, all of the water comes down the hill. The trail below it has heavy use, and material from the access road is now down where people are walking.

Vice Chairman Caron remarked it is the emergency access road that requires addressing, and he does not see why the cost of that would come out of the Commission's budget. Commissioner Tenhave commented the road from the parking lot to the river is managed by Wastewater, and they maintain it. Everything else falls under the Commission. When asked, Commissioner Tenhave stated his impression 2 water bars would be needed. The Commission discussed the location where the water bars should be placed.

Regarding the question of the type of material, it was suggested it be 4+ crushed. Commissioner Tenhave suggested the project be well defined in the write-up. He suggested the form be worked on at the next meeting of the sub-committee.

Chairman Perry spoke of the gravel intended for the picnic table area noting the PWD has indicated a little over a yard of gravel can be delivered. Commissioner Tenhave suggested the boundaries of the area where the gravel is desired should be staked prior to delivery.

Commissioner Rosati noted the Girls Scouts worked on two bridges. The remaining two; Brickyard and Ridge, they were unable to get to as time ran out. The Scouts are looking to the Commission for a short statement that can be utilized in a press release. The scouts were thanked for their efforts.

Vice Chairman Caron addressed the four boards that were broken on the Brickyard bridge. Although the four broken boards on the Brickyard Bridge were replaced, there are a good many more that are very close to broken. Vice Chairman Caron questioned if the sub-committee should complete a Project Initiation Form. Commissioner Boisvert questioned whether there remains pressure treated lumber by the gravel pile near Wildlife Opening 1. It was suggested that be utilized to complete the Brickyard Bridge.

Chairman Perry stated the Town got back to him regarding the question of repairing equipment on loan to the Commission. He was informed there is a precedence of having done this in the past. It is something the Town is comfortable with the Commission doing. Chairman Perry commented on not knowing where Peter Mikolajczuk, Chairman, Horse Hill Nature Preserve (HHNP) Sub-Committee, stands with this as during the last meeting he indicated he would get the equipment running and return it.

Chairman Perry remarked the owner of the equipment has dedicated a tremendous amount of time to the Town, and the Commissioner has a volunteer giving of his time in utilizing the equipment and getting the work done. He feels very strongly these types of activities should be supported. However, to him, it is a slippery slope as he is uncertain where a line would be drawn. He noted Grater Woods was mowed by another volunteer; using his own equipment and clearing the area. The Commission expressed gratitude.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER ROSATI TO REIMBURSE PETER MIKOLAJCZUK FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$300) TO REPAIR AND SERVICE THE EQUIPMENT HE HAS UTILIZED TO MAINTAIN CONSERVATION COMMISSION PROPERTIES. SOURCE OF FUNDING IS FUND 53
MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GLENN

ON THE QUESTION

Commissioner Tenhave remarked there is the need to be up front with people, and state that should not be the expectation, and if it is, please come before the Commission before utilizing personal equipment to seek approval. Chairman Perry stated consideration of any such expenses would be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

MOTION CARRIED

6-0-0

PRESENTATION OF THE MINUTES

Merrimack Conservation Commission. September 11, 2017

The following amendments were offered:

- Page 4, Line 32; replace "poll fjord" with "pole ford"
- Page 6, Line 25; replace "e" with "he" following "group"
- Page 9, Line 36; replace "is" with "its"
- Page 10, Line 30; replace "Greater" with "Grater"
- Page 11, Line 31; replace "miles of" with "minus"

MOTION BY VICE CHAIRMAN CARON TO ACCEPT AS AMENDED

MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GLENN

MOTION CARRIED

6-0-0

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Glenn spoke of the Bill that was discussed last year related to beaver. The Bill was pulled last year; however, another one is expected this year. She was informed the concerns expressed by the Commission were considered in the drafting of the Bill. She will provide copies when the draft is made available.

Vice Chairman Caron spoke of the tremendous amount of volunteer efforts that benefit Commission and Town properties, and expressed his gratitude.

Commissioner Tenhave questioned if anything came of the Evergreens being planted on Naticook Road. Chairman Perry stated he responded to Lori Barrett informing her of the discussion, and the request that the PWD provide written information on what would be done to the Community Development Department. He will follow-up with her on that.

Commissioner Tenhave stated he heard from an abutter questioning if abutters would be asked to provide input given they would view it every day. Chairman Perry stated there is a right-of-way easement the Town owns along that road for purposes of management. He is uncertain the Commission would have much say if they want to put something up. He remarked it is a beautiful spot, but it is treacherous in the winter time. Commissioner Tenhave added the comment made to him was so they would have to go back a couple of times to make sure it is clear during 3-4 snowstorms a year; is that really worth obstructing the view.

When asked, Commissioner Tenhave explained in the area of Greens Pond Road, wind comes screaming over the water, picks up snow, and deposits it on Naticook Road, and can even blow it across into Greens Pond Road (where the T intersection is). That results in snowdrifts, and the PWD has to go back in and re-plow that section a number of times during a snowstorm if it is windy at the

same time. The thought was to plant Evergreens along there to act as a wind block. If nothing else, the snow would pile up against the Evergreens and not necessarily make it to the road. Vice Chairman Caron suggested a snow fence could be utilized.

The Commission recommended the PWD consider utilizing snow fence rather than Evergreens, which themselves can pose other maintenance issues.

ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER GLENN TO ADJOURN
MOTION SECONDED BY VICE CHAIRMAN CARON
MOTION CARRIED
6-0-0**

The October 2, 2017 meeting of the Merrimack Conservation Commission was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Submitted by Dawn MacMillan