

Town of Randolph

Conservation Commission

Minutes of May 10, 2018

Members Present: Bruce Kirmmse (Chairman), James Hunt, Roberta Arbree, Gary Newfield, Lauren Bradley (Selectmen's Rep)

Members Excused: Walter Graff and Guy Stever

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:01 by Chairman Kirmmse.

The Commission discussed the acceptance of a cash donation from the family of Jim Meiklejohn, in his memory, for the purchase of a parcel of land in Randolph. The family contacted the landowner directly and executed a purchase and sales agreement, contingent upon the Commission accepting the gift. Once the sale is complete, the land will be conveyed to the Town Forest. Gary Newfield advised the commission that there was some concern over the purchase not being transparent, and the commission advised that there have been public hearings for anybody who is interested to attend. The land is now in current use and has a low tax value since it is undevelopable. **On a motion by James Hunt, seconded by Gary Newfield, the Commission voted unanimously to accept the cash donation to the town to complete the purchase of land between the Moose River and Route 2 next to the Durand Lake Recreation Area.**

Minutes of December 14, 2017: On a motion by James Hunt, seconded by Roberta Arbree, the Commission voted unanimously to accept the minutes of December 14, 2017 as presented.

Roberta Arbree advised the Commission that Angela Brown has requested special checks that can be printed by the Town's computer system. The checks cost \$105 for 500 checks. **On a motion by Roberta Arbree, seconded by Gary Newfield, the Commission voted unanimously to allow the purchase of checks that are compatible with the Town's computer system.**

Roberta Arbree advised that she posted a notice of the Public Hearing in the Berlin Sun and the commission will need to approve the cost. **On a motion by Gary Newfield, seconded by James Hunt, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the cost of the public hearing notice in the Berlin Sun.**

Chairman Kirmmse advised that Elise will be the presenter at the Randolph Foundation meeting in August and will discuss the Natural Resources Inventory. There is a cost involved and Chairman Kirmmse will ask the Foundation about helping with the cost of the presentation, as well as the legal fees associated with the purchase of the property.

Roberta Arbree shared an article from the Berlin Sun about a new fund to support conservation projects, it is the Randolph Area Conservation Opportunity Fund, and is managed by the NH

Charitable Foundation. Roberta will contact the Foundation to see what the requirements are and if they can apply to help with the legal fees for the land purchase or the presenter at the Randolph Foundation meeting.

Chairman Kirmmsee advised they will discuss a thank you for the Meiklejohn family at the next meeting.

Chairman Kirmmsee asked the members to think of others that may be interested in serving on the commission and bring ideas to the next meeting, as Guy Stever will no longer be available due to other commitments.

Adjournment: On a motion from Gary Newfield, seconded by Bruce Kirmmsee, the Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 pm.

Public Hearing: The Public Hearing was opened at 7:28 pm.

The public hearing was held to discuss the purchase of lot R11-45 by the town with a donation in memory of Jim Meiklejohn. The property is approximately 32 acres and is located next the Durand Lake Recreation Area, between Route 2 and the Moose River.

There were no questions.

On a motion by James Hunt, seconded by Roberta Arbree, the public hearing was closed at 7:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelli Fortin

May 11, 2018