

Town of Raymond
Conservation Commission DRAFT Minutes of
December 9, 2020

Commission Members in Attendance
(By roll call)

Jan Kent, Chair
June Dickerson, Vice-Chair (joined at 7:45 PM)
Deb McNelly, Secretary
Kris Holleran
Kathy McDonald (joined at 6:04 PM)

Meeting Called to Order by:
Chair Jan Kent at 6:03 PM

Commission Members Excused:

Commission Members Absent:

Kathy Lee, Alternate

Recording Secretary:

Alvina Snegach

Members of the Public in Attendance:

Melissa Potter – interested in becoming a member of the Commission. 1st meeting attended.

Michael Unger - interested in becoming a member of the Commission. 1st meeting attended.

A Checklist to Ensure Meetings Are Compliant With the Right-to-Know Law During The State of Emergency

Jan Kent read the checklist into the record.

Public Input:

Chair Kent opened the public input session at 6:05 PM and noted that there were two members of the public in attendance who were interested in becoming ConsCom members. They were Melissa Potter and Michael Unger. Ms. Kent went over the process of becoming a member. Them members in attendance answered questions related to the areas of ConsCom involvement. Chair Kent said she will forward the document with all the relevant links to Ms. Potter and Mr. Unger.

Agenda Items

1. Wetland/Water Quality Presentation

Chair Kent provided a short background summary to the members of the public. Then Ms. Holleran displayed the PowerPoint presentation and went over the slides. Members discussed the need to emphasize the importance of wetlands to the quality and quantity of drinking water and whether language could be added to several slides stating that what is done on the surface, matters for what happens to the aquifer. Ms. Holleran noted that she will add the language. Another discussion was

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44 about ways to publish the presentation once it has been finalized. Suggestions were
45 made to post in on the Town website, ConsCom Facebook page, run it on RCTV,
46 etc.

47 The proposed zoning amendments language in the presentation was discussed as
48 well. Members talked about the need to make it as clear as possible and maybe
49 provide the existing zoning ordinance language for reference along with the
50 proposed changes. Chair Kent said that she will send out the proposed zoning
51 amendment language to the members and will plan to go over each one along with
52 the existing zoning at the next ConsCom meeting. She will also work with Ms.
53 Holleran in the meantime to clarify the language for the presentation.

54 Another suggestion was to add some landmark information to the map with the Top
55 10 priority wetlands to make them easier to find. Chair Kent said that she will reach
56 out to Dubois&King to once more ask them to provide the overlay layer files to be
57 used with the Town tax maps online and will have to ask the Town to incorporate
58 the layer into the GIS framework. It was also suggested to create an appendix with
59 a list of landmarks for each of the Top 10 wetlands. Ms. Holleran will attempt to
60 create it.

61 The last suggestion for the presentation was made by Chair Kent and that was to
62 include references at the end of it. Ms. Holleran will update.

63

64 **2. Flint Hill – discussion on rock excavation activities**

65 Chair Kent read into the record the email from Stephen Brewer, Department of
66 Public Works, about being informed by the developer of the Norris Farm Road
67 subdivision who observed people (supposedly from Massachusetts, based on the
68 license plates) digging with a pick axe out in the open space of Flint Hill. Mr. Brewer
69 made an assumption that this is a quartzite vein of a sizable area. Chair Kent said
70 that Ms. McDonald and she went to check the site out and saw some recent activity
71 but were not sure how significant it was. Members discussed whether there is a
72 concern on behalf of the Commission with such activity and what could be done.
73 Chair Kent noted that the area is currently not Town property but eventually will
74 become such. Members discussed the liability, enforcement, and the possibility of
75 posting the land prohibiting such use, as opposed to allowing smaller quantities to be
76 taken by people who obtain permits and/or sign liability release. Consensus was that
77 the ConsCom is concerned and the property should be posted. Chair Kent will
78 contact the Town Manager to convey the ConsCom's concerns and talk to him about
79 the possibility of posting the are prohibiting such use. Ms. McDonald will also look
80 through the excavation related zoning articles to see if there are any regulations for
81 such activities.

82

83 **3. Stand up for forest org – review website**

84 Chair Kent displayed the website. Ms. Holleran showed the Toolkit link with
85 downloadable materials available to the ConsCom to be used for communicating the

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86 importance of forests to the public. Kris Holleran will download the documents to
87 see which ones could be of use to the Conservation Commission.

88
89 **4. CC Website update**

90 Chair Kent displayed the ConsCom webpage and went over the recent changes as
91 they were proposed at the last meeting, which included the location links to each of
92 the Town property and reorganization of related documents. She briefly went over
93 each map and noted that Dearborn and Cassier properties will be getting updated
94 maps soon.

95
96 **5. ERSLAC Annual Report and Invoice**

97 Jan Kent displayed the invoice from ERSALAC and noted that she does not recall the
98 Commission ever paying such invoices. Members discussed the membership in the
99 river advisory committees and whether the ConsCom budget will allow for it. Ms.
100 McDonald noted that she could check out what the membership entails and
101 consensus was to hold off on the item until she does.

102
103 **6. Cilley Road property Tax Map discrepancy**

104 Chair Kent said that she had sent an email to the Town officials based on the
105 discussion ConsCom had in November and received a response that they will
106 forward the information to the tax map people, who will fix it.

107
108 **Finance**

109 **Conservation Fund Statement – November**

110 Chair Kent said that November Conservation Fund statement was not available at this
111 time.

112 **Conservation Fund Interest - follow up**

113 Chair Kent displayed an email from the Finance Department with the answer to the
114 decreasing interest on the Conservation Fund balance that the Commission raised at the
115 last meeting. The email stated that the interest had begun decreasing even before the
116 pandemic started, and has been ever since.

117
118 **Approval of Minutes**

119 *November 18, 2020 minutes* draft was reviewed and changes were made. **Kris**
120 **Holleran made a motion to approve the minutes of November 18, 2020 as**
121 **amended; Deb McNelly duly seconded. Motion carried by a roll call vote of**
122 **4:0 as follows: Kris Holleran – yes; Deb McNelly – yes; Jan Kent – yes; and**
123 **Kathy McDonald - yes.**

124 *December 8, 2020 Cilley Road site walk draft minutes* were reviewed and changes were
125 made. **Ms. Holleran motion to approve the 11/13/2020 site walk minutes as**
126 **amended. Jan Kent duly seconded. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 3:1:0**
127 **as follows: Kris Holleran – yes; Jan Kent – yes; and Kathy McDonald - yes.**
128 **Deb McNelly – abstained as she was not there.**

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129 June Dickerson joined the meeting at 7:45 PM and apologized for being late.

130 **Correspondence**

131 *NHACC Event - December 14th*

132 *Pollinator Pathways November Newsletter* – Ms. Holleran suggested to put the
133 newsletter link on the ConsCom Facebook page.

134 *Bear-Paw letter thanking for support.*

135 **Other**

136 Ms. Kent also said that she had picked up mail at the Town office and there were
137 identical individual letters to most ConsCom members. She opened hers and it was not
138 related to any ConsCom business. All other members requested that Ms. Kent recycle
139 their copy.

140 Ms. McNelly spoke about her observations of the construction site on Prescott Road
141 where the old cabin was torn down. She said that it seemed that there more trees cut
142 between the river and the house site than proposed on the plan. Ms. McDonald and Ms.
143 Holleran will try to go out and see as well.

144 Chair Kent said that the next ConsCom meeting will take place on January 13, 2021 at
145 6:30 PM. Cilley Road sitewalk will be discussed then. She also noted that the next Town
146 property due for a site visit is Colonial Drive property.

147

148 **Adjournment**

149 **Kris Holleran moved to adjourn the meeting; Kathy McDonald seconded the**
150 **motion. Motion carried by a roll call vote - Deb McNelly – yes; Kris Holleran –**
151 **yes; Jan Kent – yes; June Dickerson – yes; Kathy McDonald – yes.**

152

153 The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

154

155 Respectfully Submitted,

156

157 Alvina Snegach

158 Recording Secretary