

Hebron Conservation Commission
December 10, 2021
Minutes - approved

Present: Martha Twombly (co-chair), Suzanne Smith (co-chair), Debbie James, Barb Kohout and Paul Connor. Both Debbie and Barbara were elevated from alternate to regular member status.

Martha called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Co-chairs recently became aware that a Shoreland Permit application had been filed with DES (DES file number #2021-03582) by Peter Rotch, current owner, on behalf of purchaser, for 49 Lakeshore Drive.

Of great concern is a wetland/glacial bog/vernal pool which encompasses about 25 percent of this 1.7 acre property and a portion of abutter Doug McLane's property. Doug presented detailed information about the bog along with a study done by Dr. Lisa Doner of Plymouth State University in 2018. This study included taking core samples down to 7 feet. The carbon dating done by Beta Analytic shows that the bog is 9,500 years old and thus is a very important geological, historical and possibly archeological resource. Copies of the Vernal Pool Documentation report, documentation of the carbon dating and the report of Peter Spear, certified wetland scientist, are on file with the Conservation Commission.

The Conservation Commission has no authority to intervene with the Department of Environmental Services. However, all agreed that a letter to the department stating the Commission's concerns with setbacks for the house and driveway are an issue that should be considered in the permit review. Members drafted a letter stating the Commission's concerns.

Suzanne made a motion to approve the draft with corrections. Paul seconded the motion. All members agreed. Letter is attached to these minutes. Martha will hand deliver the letter to DES (Shoreland Protection Bureau) later this week, and it will be emailed to the Natural Heritage Bureau, Fish and Game's Non-game and Endangered Wildlife Species division as well as to the Wetlands Bureau at DES.

Bob Wisniewski has expressed interest in being on the Conservation Commission. Bob lives at NevaDun Farm on Groton Road. His property abuts the Cockermouth River across from the Town Forest. He is a longtime user of the forest during every season. Members discussed adding another alternate and agreed to recommend his membership as an alternate to the Selectboard.

There being no further business, Debbie made a motion to adjourn, Barb seconded it. All concurred and the meeting adjourned at 8:19pm

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Smith, Secretary