

Hebron Conservation Commission
Minutes (approved) November 30, 2022

Martha Twombly, co-chair, called the meeting to order at 7 pm

Present: Martha Twombly and Suzanne Smith (co-chairs), Paul Connor, Debbie James (alt), Barbara Kohout (alt)
Both Barb and Deb were elevated to full member status.
Guest: Stacy Darlington

MINUTES:

Members reviewed September 2022 minutes. Barb made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Deb seconded the motion and all concurred.

October minutes were deferred until the next meeting.

MAIL: Martha shared letter from Newfound Lake Region Association (NLRA) to the Department of Environmental Services (DES) concerning lake levels. NLRA is concerned that DES is not following the plan which was put into place in the last two years.

The NLRA website has a lot of information about the lake levels rising and falling. Question as to whether the Newfound Dam is regulated automatically dependent on water levels at dam.

Martha has requested a meeting with the Selectboard on December 15 to discuss water quality testing at Charles Bean Sanctuary and Hebron Beach. The state stopped testing for e-coli on town beaches which have consistently tested negative a couple of years ago. We have been told that the town of Bristol pays to have lake water tested at Town beaches. Prior to the meeting, Martha will call the Town Administrator in Bristol to learn their protocol. Suzanne stated that she believes that beach areas in State Parks is tested (Wellington, Ellacoya, etc.) by the state.

Discussion among members about having a joint meeting with Newfound area Conservation Commission members. Paul expressed interest in learning about the Alexandria Bog.

Wetlands Protection Overlay District

Members continued review of the Hebron WPOD as well as other towns' wetlands ordinances (Meredith, Center Harbor, Bow). Discussion included developing a process to designate more of the town's wetlands which have already been delineated, vernal pools (adding buffers, updating definition), and updating current buffers.

Suzanne will reach out to Fish and Game to learn what information or maps are available for vernal pools.

Martha is going to collate her notes regarding amending the WPOD and will send this to members within the next week.

Martha began discussion on the flooding of the Spectacle Pond Trail due to the dam built by beavers in the wetland. She is interested in putting some boards down for walking. A couple of members agreed to do a site visit Friday afternoon (Dec. 2) and lay down boards if they can be obtained by then.

Suzanne made a motion to adjourn. Barb seconded and all concurred.
Meeting ws adjourned at 8:40

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Smith
Acting Secretary