Meeting Minutes, Lancaster Conservation Commission
Tuesday, May 21st, 2024

Board members present: Mayne Mayne, Vickie Gibbs, Nancy Southworth
Members of the public: Michael Nadeau, Mike Webster, Lucy Wyman, Rob Christie, Kate Hartnett

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM.

Gibbs moved to accept Mike Webster's letter of interest to join LCC and recommend to the Selectboard that he be appointed as a member. Southworth seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Gibbs moved that Mayne Mayne be appointed Chair of LCC. Southworth seconded. The motion passed unanimously with Mayne abstaining.

Gibbs reviewed ongoing work on trails in the town, and answered a number of questions from the public.

Southworth discussed the potential for putting a conservation easement on the Lancaster town forest, held by Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust. All members voiced their support for the idea. Southworth volunteered to approach the Selectboard for their approval to continue pursuing an easement.

Mayne gave an update on activities related to the riparian restoration effort at Lancaster Elementary.

Mayne summarized conversations with Steve Walker of the NH Conservation Land Stewardship Program concerning creation of additional water storage at the town water supply and whether it would be allowed by the conservation easement on one of the two town properties at the water supply. Walker suggested the town confirm with CLSP that they agree storage is in line with the easement before finishing the design of additional storage. Mayne said that based on his reading, it would be in line with the easement, but it would be a good idea to confirm with CLSP. Gibbs moved to recommend to the Selectboard that the town confirm with CLSP before moving forward. Southworth seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Mayne volunteered to draft a letter to CLSP.

Southworth moved to confirm to NRCS that LCC considers a high tunnel for crop production in line with the easement on Barbara Peaslee's property. Gibbs seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The Commission discussed the wetland impacts for the town's work on Summer St. Without further information on the project, all agreed they were not able to weigh in on the wetland

effects. All agreed it was unlikely the wetland effects would be significant enough to warrant objection.

Gibbs moved that LCC write to the US Army Corps of Engineers in opposition to the proposed landfill in Dalton. Webster volunteered to draft a letter for the commission to send. Christie forwarded several form letters he was aware of for the purpose.

Public Comment

Christie asked how he could help fill vacancies. All asked that he tell people there are openings and refer anyone who is interested to a member.

Hartnett encouraged LCC to continue to engage with the CLSP program, which can provide a wealth of knowledge.

Gibbs moved and Southworth seconded to close the meeting at 6:40. The motion passed unanimously.