

# TEMPLE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes, July 14, 2021

Location: Town Hall Annex

Attendees: Sean Radcliffe, Scott Hecker, Carol Mamczak, Mike Madden, Cathy Joly

Absent: Adie Krulis, Lincoln Geiger, Jeff Jenson

Guest: Christine Robidoux

Started at 7:04 pm

1. Approval of Minutes: Carol moved to accept the June 9, 2021 meeting minutes, Mike seconded. All in favor. Scott moved to accept the June 5, 2021 meeting minutes, Sean seconded. All in favor.
2. Community Advisory Committee (CAC): Christine shared that the Select Board has approved moving forward with the process to apply for a mini-grant to cover the cost of a Plan NH Charrette to explore affordable housing. Plan NH would supply a team of experts to spend 2 days looking at town properties, talking with residents, reviewing Temple's Master Plan, zoning, etc, and at the end they will provide recommendations. Plan NH needs a letter from the Con Com stating our support for the Charrette. Scott made a motion to write this letter of support, Sean seconded. All in favor. *Scott will write this letter with support from Christine.*
3. Conservation of Lot 7-35 update: There was strong support for this at Town Meeting. So now we explore how to create the easement; *Sean will reach out to Monadnock Conservancy to see if they would be interested in holding the easement.*
4. Town Forest Forest Plan: *Carol will circulate the plan to members for one last review; Scott will send the plan to Monadnock Conservancy for their review.*
5. Chris Weston trail update: Scott explained that on the Northern part of the trail, pink ribbons indicate what should be removed and orange ribbons mark the trail. Scott found pink ribbons on South trail; none of us placed them there. Mike talked to Ken about clearing the poison ivy around the parking lot; Ken asked us to email him a map outlining the area of poison ivy and he will work on it; *Mike will do this.* Mike also asked Ken about mowing the trail through the field; Ken wants a map, or we can stake the trail; *Mike will do this.* The next trail work day will be July 24 at 9:00am. Mike suggested using the downed pines to make lumber for a bridge.

6. Kiosk at White Ledges: Mike shared that the Select Board asked us to determine who owns the Ledges class 6 road prior to placing a kiosk on the road; Christine shared that the road is not maintained by the town, but rather is shared by owners of the surrounding land. George Willard is agreeable to the kiosk being placed near the stone wall where the old loafing shed was. *Mike will draw a map showing this proposed location of the kiosk and will get on the Select Board agenda again and attend the meeting.* We are unsure of the boundaries of the Ledges property; *Mike will make a map that shows this.* We will provide materials for the kiosk and *Scott will post the simple plan on Temple's facebook page to see if anyone is willing to build it.*
7. Land Conservation Strategy: Scott suggested that we need an article explaining our interest in pursuing conservation easements in town, that we are not interested in purchasing properties but rather supporting residents to conserve their properties. The NH Forest Society has documented the economic advantages to residents who conserve their land. We should determine a percentage goal for conserved land in town, and prioritize areas based on criteria such as creating corridors, agriculture, abutting existing conserved land, watershed value, recreational trails. *Mike will work on the first draft.*
8. New items: We discussed the UNH Extension Service's upcoming BioBlitz, installing a Picture Post in the Town Forest, and the surprising number of hemlocks that are devoid of needles this year.
9. Scott shared that the Select Board adopted a new policy for appointing committee members, effective June 22, 2021 through December 2021. The policy states that the Select Board cannot appoint someone to a committee without contacting the committee first, and if the Select Board rejects a recommendation from the committee for a new member, they must publicly share their reasoning. Christine shared what happened with the Zoning Board the previous day, which was in violation of this new policy.

The group adjourned at 8:46 pm. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, August 11, 2021 at 7:00 PM.

Minutes submitted by Cathy Joly.

*Italics above indicate tasks to be done.*