



# Mason Conservation Commission

## DRAFT Minutes

Oct. 14, 2020, 7:00 PM to 9:55 PM

This meeting was held electronically using the Town of Mason Zoom account under authority of Governor Sununu's Emergency Order #16 temporarily modifying the requirements for public access to meetings under RSA 91:A. Liz Fletcher acted as host. The Right-to-Know Law meeting checklist was followed.

Attendance by roll call:

- Chuck Andersen – absent
- Barbara DeVore – absent
- **Bob Dillberger – present**
- **Anna Faeillo – present**
- **Liz Fletcher – present**
- **Bob Larochelle – present**
- **Lundy Lewis – present**

Alternates:

- Matt Robinson-Liu – absent
- Ann Moser – absent
- Rob Doyle – absent
- Charlie Lanni – absent
- Rosanna Nadeau – absent
- Chris Pratka – absent

Members of the public attending: Garth Fletcher, Curt Spacht, Kathy Chapman, Ken Spacht, Dave Baker.

---

Liz moved we accept September 2020 minutes as amended. Bob L seconded. Bob D: aye, Anna: aye, Liz: aye, Bob L: aye, Lundy: aye. The motion passed.

Barbara reports (via email) that Drug Take Back Day is scheduled for the last Saturday of the month from 10 AM to 2 PM at the police dept. Drop-off containers will be outside. She's working out details with Officer Josh Hooper who will be on duty.

Met with Dave Baker and Ken Spacht to discuss the hay lease at the Greenville Rd. overlook. Dave is retiring from haying, and Ken is interested in taking over the lease. Ken had a few questions about the lease agreement:

1. Would we consider modifying the lease to allow commercial fertilizer? Bob D. suggested we seek a professional 3<sup>rd</sup> party opinion on the question before deciding, and will contact NRCS or CES for help. Ken said his focus is on maximizing hay production which Bob D. pointed out is not our goal. Liz also noted we'd like to schedule cuttings to avoid interference with field-nesting birds, another consideration that might be at odds with maximum hay production. Bob D. will find out what cutting schedule is recommended for this region. Some further negotiation is expected on these questions.
2. Would we consider striking the prohibition on burning in Section 5-B-5? Ken noted that burning can be beneficial and cost-effective. After discussion, Liz moved we remove the words "burn or" from this item. Anna seconded. Bob D: aye, Anna: aye, Liz: aye, Bob L: aye, Lundy: aye. The motion passed.
3. Could we increase the term of the lease? It can take some time to see the effect of improvements. After discussion, Bob D moved we change the term of the lease to 3 years with an option to renew for another 3 years at the end of the first term. Bob D: aye, Anna: aye, Liz: aye, Bob L: aye, Lundy: aye. The motion passed.

Had a brief discussion about the H-37/H-38 boundary. Bob L strongly recommends we have the property line surveyed and have several markers placed along the line so we have clear line-of-sight between markers. Agreed we should at least seek a quote for the work. Following through will depend on cost. Bob L. will seek bids.

Agreed to construct wooden guardrails along the quarry access bridge to replace the rocks along the edges. Bob D. will sketch a design and coordinate construction.

Curt S. gave an update on trail work on the Bronson Potter land. The volunteers have cleared most of the trails on the property in the vicinity of Greenville Rd.

Re. creating barriers to folks driving onto the field at Greenville Rd., the idea came up of asking Eversource if they'd donate the old wooden poles they've been replacing to use as barriers. Liz will call them to inquire.

Liz reports the cottage has yet to be removed from the Fifield property. We need it removed before our LCHIP monitoring report this fall. Liz will draft a letter to Bruce Ward reminding him of the need to remove the cottage and restore the site. We agreed the work should be completed by Dec. 1.

Received an email from Sheila Beaulieu asking us to please come collect the remaining timbers from the RR trestle reconstruction. They agreed to store the extra timbers at their house, but they're moving. Bob L will coordinate with her. Liz will ask Scott MacGarvey if he'll let us use his pickup for the task.

Liz moved adjourn. Bob L seconded. Bob D: aye, Anna: aye, Liz: aye, Bob L: aye, Lundy: aye. Meeting adjourned.

## Action Items

*See relevant minutes for more information about these items.*

| <i>Added</i>     | <i>Done</i> | <i>Who</i> | <i>Item</i>  |
|------------------|-------------|------------|--|
| <b>June 2020</b> | Oct. 2020   | Chuck      | Notify snowmobile club about downed trails signs.  |
| <b>July 2020</b> |             | Barbara    | Contact Chief Maxwell regarding camping and trash at the Greenville Rd. overlook, and about any existing relevant ordinances that cover town-owned land (including conservation land). |
| <b>Sept 2020</b> | Oct. 2020   | Liz        | Write wetlands report on H-5 for Planning Board.   |
|                  | Oct. 2020   | Bob L      | Draft a letter to the BOS about concerns related to activity on H-38.  |
|                  | Oct. 2020   | Bob L.     | Contact Amos White about potential solutions for edging on the quarry access road bridge.  |
|                  | Oct. 2020   | Bob D.     | Coordinate with The Water Store and Dennis Graham to schedule installation of the air radon system. Bob will also ask Dennis for key to the property.                                  |
|                  |             | Chuck      | Talk to Harry Spears about Forestry Committee funds for RR Trail maintenance.  |
|                  | Oct. 2020   | Liz        | Talk to Bruce Ward about removing the cottage on the Fifield easement.   |
|                  | Oct. 2020   | Lundy      | Talk to Dave Baker about the hay lease and ask him to attend our next meeting.   |
|                  | Oct. 2020   | Bob D.     | Talk to Dave Morrison about how to prevent folks from driving into the field at the Greenville Rd. overlook.   |
|                  | Oct. 2020   | Bob L.     | Follow up with Fire Dept. about RR Trail gates to make sure they have the right key.   |
| <b>Oct 2020</b>  |             | Bob D.     | Contact NRCS or CES seeking an opinion about using commercial fertilizer at the Greenville Rd. overlook.   |
|                  |             | Bob D.     | Ask Rob Doyle when to cut fields to protect birds.   |
|                  |             | Bob L.     | Seek bids for surveying the H-37/H-38 boundary.  |
|                  |             | Bob D.     | Sketch design for guardrails on quarry access road bridge.   |
|                  |             | Liz        | Contact Eversource about acquiring wooden utility poles to use a barriers against illegal vehical trespass.  |
|                  |             | Liz        | Ask Scott MacGarvey if he can help move timbers left over from RR trestle reconstruction.  |