

**TOWN OF EPSOM
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Epsom Town Offices
October 20, 2022, 6:00PM**

PRESENT

Chad Decker, Vice Chair
Robyn Blaise, Commissioner
Kate Champney, Commissioner
Cheryl Gilpatrick, Selectmen Representative

ALSO PRESENT

Jennifer Riel, Recording Secretary – via telephone
Luke Powell

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Decker called the meeting to order at 6:03PM.

AGENDA REVIEW

Mr. Decker suggested moving Mr. Powell up on the agenda. The Old Home Day item was removed.

Ms. Blaise motioned to accept the agenda as amended. Ms. Champney seconded the motion. Motion passed, 3-0-0.

● ***Luke Powell - Keeler Property Wetlands Review***

Mr. Powell presented plans regarding the Jeffrey Keeler property subdivision proposal. He stated lot 47 is about 80 acres and lot 12 is about 7 acres; the Keelers are proposing to subdivide the property into eight lots and keep the lot which has the house at the end of Nash Lane and the lot will remain about 30 acres. The proposal was designed so that only one wetland is impacted; the intent is to have a shared driveway over one wetland to minimize the overall impact. Mr. Lowell stated the wetland crossing will consist of 10' gravel driveways and 4' shoulders. He explained the construction and layout of the driveway crossing the wetland. He also confirmed the application to the State of NH Environmental Services has been submitted and accepted.

The Commissioners had no questions. Ms. Gilpatrick suggested Mr. Decker provide information to the Planning Board indicating the Conservation Commission has no concerns.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Meeting of August 18, 2022 – Edits were made. **Mr. Decker motioned to approve the minutes as amended. Ms. Blaise seconded the motion. Motion passed, 3-0-0.**

Correspondence

The Commissioners reviewed recent correspondence received from The Mitchell Group; minutes from the State Conservation Commission; a dredge and fill application approval from the State for the Common Man property; and a baseline for the Hickey property conservation easement.

- ***Town Forest Camping Policy***

Mr. Decker stated this has come up a few times over the summer with people requesting to camp in the Town Forest. He stated it was suggested by the Board of Selectmen that they should consider developing a policy and an ordinance. Ms. Gilpatrick explained the policies and ordinance, which are in place for Webster Park and Short Fall, and noted a copy of the Park Commissions Ordinance was available for review by the Commissioners in the shared drive if they would like an example to use to develop an ordinance for the Town Forest. She could also provide a copy of the Park Policy if they would like. The Commissioners agreed to review the documents and discuss further at the next meeting. Ms. Blaise offered to get started on drafting the ordinance, which would include camping.

- ***Conservation Commission Database or Drive***

Ms. Gilpatrick explained how Commissioners can utilize the Google Drive for sharing and viewing documents and files.

- ***Conservation Easement Reports***

Postponed.

Public Input

None.

Next Meeting

To be determined.

Ms. Champney made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Decker seconded the motion. Motion passed, 3-0-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:57PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Riel

Jennifer Riel, Recording Secretary