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**MINUTES OF THE  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**MEETING OF  
August 7, 2019**

8 A meeting of the Conservation Commission was held on August 7, 2019 at the Salem Town  
9 Hall, 33 Geremonty Drive, Salem, NH.

10  
11 **PRESENT:** Ruth Isaks, Chairman; Linda Harvey, Vice-Chairman; Steve Boyd, Secretary;  
12 Arthur Barnes, Selectmen's Rep; Dave Blake; Glen Edwards; Rhonda McCune;  
13 Donald Marotte, Alternate; Crystal Napoli, Alternate; and Karri Makinen,  
14 Community Development Coordinator.

15  
16 The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Isaks  
17 introduced the commission members and went over the agenda.

18  
19 Appointment - Meghan Fernandes, Salem High School Biology Teacher – Spicket River  
20 Conservation

21  
22 Chairman Isaks said that Ms. Fernandes is not here.  
23 Ms. Makinen said that she can give an overview of her presentation if she is not able to join us.

24  
25 **OTHER COMMISSION BUSINESS**

26  
27 1. Review of Minutes

28  
29 July 10, 2019

30  
31 Correction - Mr. Blake said that Steve Boyd should be listed as Secretary.

32  
33 **MOTION by Mr. Edwards to accept the amended July 10, 2019 meeting minutes.**

34 **SECOND by Mr. Barnes.**

35  
36 **VOTE ON MOTION: 7 - 0**

37 **UNANIMOUS**

38  
39 Minutes of the non-public session

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41 **MOTION by Mr. Barnes to accept the minutes of the non-public session.**

42 **SECOND by Mr. Blake.**

43  
44 **VOTE ON MOTION: 7 - 0**

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1 **UNANIMOUS**

2  
3 Mrs. Harvey said that the minutes of the non-public session need to be handed back to Karri.  
4 When does that happen?

5 Mr. Barnes said, at the conclusion of the meeting.  
6

7 **2. Conservation Fund Report**  
8

9 Mrs. Harvey said that we had a total interest income for both banks of \$234.16 and we got the  
10 deposit of \$140,000 from the land use change tax. The current balance in the two banks is  
11 \$1,008,577.07. At this point, we don't have any more land use change tax coming in. All the  
12 land that was in current use has already been received. We won't be getting anymore large  
13 additions to the fund in the foreseeable future. She has handed out a history of the fund. A lot of  
14 this came from going back to town reports and the minutes of town meetings, to get information.  
15 As much as she could figure out, the monthly tracking of our funds started in 2004. Each one of  
16 these months starting in 2004 is backed up by a detailed annual report. A question came up at the  
17 last meeting on how much we spend each year out of the fund. Other than for land acquisition,  
18 there is a column for other fund expenditures that gives a summary of our costs. It includes legal  
19 expenses.  
20

21 Chairman Isaks asked about the investment of treasury bills. We have a memo from John Sytek.  
22 She is not sure of what mechanism by which the town would purchase these.

23 Ms. Makinen said that she reached out to the bank and is trying to figure out how it would work.  
24 The question is, is the commission interested in pursuing this if possible. Mr. Sytek has given us  
25 estimates based on \$100,000. The interest is right around 2% and he was looking at 90 day bills  
26 which offer a lot of flexibility in case we need to access the funds. 90 days isn't a lot of time to  
27 tie it up. The rates for longer terms are lower than the 90 day. It is roughly 2, but it changes every  
28 day. The current rates at Citizens Bank is .15% and Salem Coop is .75%. So 2% is much better.  
29

30 Mr. Edwards said he would like to see us go with the T bills.

31 Chairman Isaks said we can ask him to continue, and find out what the process would be to  
32 purchase them. It seems to imply that it is the town who purchases them through the bank.

33 Ms. Makinen said, he said it is set up for individuals to purchase and he is not sure how the town  
34 as an entity would do that, but the question for the commission is, how much would you like to  
35 invest if we can pursue this?

36 Chairman Isaks said, we initially discussed \$500,000.

37 Mrs. Harvey said suggested a fairly substantial amount but that it be done every 30 days. So that  
38 at the end of the 90 day cycle there is some becoming liquid that we can pull out. Our  
39 acquisitions, we have been able negotiate deals to make payments. The land involves a down  
40 payment which could be significant. If we do every 90 days, like \$250,000 and take it up to  
41 \$750,000, that leaves about \$250,000 in the bank, which she thinks is significant.  
42

43 Mr. Blake said, if you go through a different organization, you can get a regular savings of  
44 2.36%.

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1 Mrs. Harvey said that we are limited to using banks that are chartered in New Hampshire. Salem  
2 Coop and Citizens Bank are both chartered in New Hampshire. There are other banks in New  
3 Hampshire.

4 Chairman Isaks asked, will there be a difference in treasury bills in the percentage that we get?

5 Ms. Makinen said that the rates for treasury bills are set at the Federal level and are the same. We  
6 could get a better interest rate on savings depending on which bank we use.

7 Mrs. Harvey said that Salem has an agreement with Citizens with some sort of insurance policy  
8 that we can have more than \$200,000 insured. Mr. Sytek would be the best one to explain this.

9 Ms. Makinen said, that's what he told her also.

10 Mr. Boyd said, one strategy in investments is leaving it in savings accounts and not getting  
11 inflation. He suggested that we give the \$750,000 to Mr. Sytek now and in 90 days we'll have it.  
12 Waiting only loses you money. Once it is available, jump in.

13

14 Chairman Isaks asked, is the commission's preference to continue looking into the investment?

15 Mrs. Harvey suggested that we start off with the initial \$250,000 and in a month, do more. The T  
16 bills are safe. If we have a situation where we want to acquire land, that frees the money up from  
17 the T bills sooner by having a rolling process. She suggested that we ask John.

18 Ms. Makinen said, he'll do whatever the Conservation Commission recommends. He needs to  
19 know how you want to invest it.

20

21 **MOTION by Mr. Boyd to do \$250,000, and be set up to do the next \$250,000 in 30 days**  
22 **from now.**

23 **SECOND by Mr. Edwards.**

24

25 **VOTE ON MOTION: 7 – 0**

26 **UNANIMOUS**

27

28 **APPOINTMENT** – Meghan Fernandes

29

30 Meghan Fernandes is a teacher at Salem High School. She is a Biology teacher and also an  
31 advisor to the Salem High School Conservation Club (Sustainability Club). Recently we have  
32 been talking about the desire to adopt land in Salem. We would rehabilitate, beautify and remove  
33 invasives from the land and use it for scientific monitoring, such as water quality testing and  
34 Phenology which is the study of seasonal changes. She was given a small grant of \$200 from a  
35 workshop she attended this past summer, that encourages her to help students lead a stewardship  
36 project. This past week Ms. Makinen accompanied her and two students to look at some  
37 appropriate pieces of land. We all decided that the small land that used to be a house, fits our  
38 needs. She brought the New Hampshire Fish & Game Department teachers manual for trout in  
39 the classroom, which her students participated in the previous year, and will be doing again this  
40 year. We raise trout and we have a permit from the State Fish & Game to release them  
41 exclusively into the Spicket. This is why the pieces of property that we're looking at have been  
42 bordering along the Spicket. We would like to improve that. She also brought something called a  
43 picture post. It goes on a post, and is oriented north and you can take pictures of the landscape in  
44 each direction. You then load your pictures onto [picturepost.unh.edu](http://picturepost.unh.edu) and it tracks seasonal

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1 changes. It contributes to the digital Earth watch network. She explained what this is. It allows  
2 for citizen science. We hope that if we beautify this park, it will be open to the whole community  
3 to participate and contribute photos to the national database.

4  
5 Chairman Isaks asked, does this have any relation with the biology group at Salem High doing  
6 the monitoring of the Geremonty wetland?

7 Ms. Fernandes said, that is done by her colleague, Ms. Preston. We haven't done that research.  
8 We'd love to combine our data. This is only her second year as a teacher.

9 Chairman Isaks wondered if any of those students are involved in the conservation club.

10 Ms. Fernandes said that Ms. Preston is Earth science, so usually the students who study the  
11 wetlands are with her, then they come to Ms. Fernandes as sophomores, for Biology, and any  
12 student can participate in our sustainability club. So we have all 4 grades participating but the  
13 sophomores are in her class.

14 Chairman Isaks asked, were you planning to use just the area of the Spicket River conservation  
15 land, or also use the trail that goes back?

16 Ms. Fernandes said, she doesn't believe that the town owns that land. We would not object to  
17 contributing to whatever needs to be done. We saw invasive species that need removal. We want  
18 to work in the front space, but a big goal is to do the two banks of the river. We would like to do  
19 a survey of the plants and see if they are native or invasive and if they need to be replanted. We  
20 would also like to put up a butterfly garden.

21  
22 Mrs. Harvey said, this is the Valentine Memorial Park. Is the sign still there?

23 Ms. Fernandes said, yes but it looked bent.

24 Mrs. Harvey said, you mentioned doing both sides of the river.

25 Ms. Fernandes said, she is not sure if we have access to the other banks because it may be  
26 someone else's property.

27 Mrs. Harvey said that the town only owns one side. The path going back is private property. She  
28 thinks this is a great idea. There are a couple other areas where similar projects could be done for  
29 the future. We have invasives in the town forest. It would be helpful to help with some of that.  
30 We also have a pretty big invasive problem on the rail corridor. There are wetlands behind Sanel  
31 just north of the depot that have a lot of invasives. If you are interested in helping with the  
32 Monarch butterfly project, she would like to enlist people to help.

33  
34 Mr. Barnes asked, is this off Lawrence Road?

35 Ms. Makinen explained that in 2012 the Conservation Commission acquired the site. It was a  
36 former house lot that frequently flooded. The house was torn down and named in memory of Bill  
37 Valentine, who is a former Conservation Commission member. There is a kiosk that was  
38 installed by a Boy Scout troop. One of Ms. Fernandes' students is in that troop and they may be  
39 interested in helping to rehab the site. The trees in the picture are gone. She was contacted by  
40 someone from the Salem Woman's Club who is interested in planting trees or doing a  
41 conservation project. Ms. Makinen thought this would be a great match. Adding trees would  
42 make it more of a park setting. There are a lot of opportunities to cooperate with different groups  
43 who want to improve Salem.

44 Chairman Isaks said, there is also an information board there that needs help.

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2 Mrs. Harvey said this was originally intended to have a canoe launching place. That was going to  
3 be part of the Boy Scout project but it got dropped. She is not sure if the Spicket in that area is  
4 open enough to put canoes there. We haven't had a Spicket River cleanup committee for about  
5 20 years. There used to be a subcommittee. It went away when interest was lost.

6  
7 Chairman Isaks asked, when will you begin?

8 Ms. Fernandes said, we'd like to start in September. Our club has goals. The Key Club would  
9 also like to work with us. We are hoping to fundraise to raise cost for the native plants, or to  
10 purchase trees. The Key Club is large so there are plenty of people to help.

11 Chairman Isaks said she would be interested to see how this progresses. Can you come back and  
12 give us a progress report in December? We meet on the first Wednesday of the month.

13 Ms. Fernandes said we would do that and she would like to also bring her students.

**OTHER COMMISSION BUSINESS****3. Town Forest**

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18  
19 Mr. Edwards said that he and Ms. Makinen joined a staff person from Southeast Land Trust and  
20 walked the town forest. The woman from Southeast Land Trust was mainly interested in the new  
21 structures, so she documented those and the trails, so they will know if there are any changes in  
22 the future. Any changes have to be approved by Southeast Land Trust. It was educational. We  
23 saw the little bridge crossing that needs to be improved. He sent an email to our town forester  
24 about maybe getting a bid on the cost to get the bridge in there. One problem is, it is fairly deep  
25 into the forest. It takes time to get material in there. We followed up on contacting about the  
26 timber harvest. That is put off until after Labor Day. Later we will talk about the potential for a  
27 gate on Hummingbird Lane. He mentioned the graffiti removal. He and Chairman Isaks tested  
28 some products. We found one that was promising. It will take a while to obtain the material. We  
29 thought it worked well on the stone and it is EPA approved. We will be working right at the  
30 water's edge and maybe into the brook. We are hoping to schedule the Key Club to come in and  
31 do the work. Several of the members volunteered. He is hoping the committee members will be  
32 able to be there to supervise. Their regular supervisor can't be there.

33 Chairman Isaks said that the materials are supposed to be here tomorrow. She thinks we could  
34 schedule it for next week. If we don't schedule it for next week, then we are getting into  
35 September.

36 Ms. Makinen said, when school starts, it will be tougher to get the students to help.

37 Chairman Isaks suggested that do a week from tomorrow. She discussed the type of materials  
38 that will be needed. They need to be appropriately dressed and bring bug spray. She asked them  
39 to bring water to wash the graffiti.

40 Ms. Makinen suggested that if we schedule it for next Thursday, she won't be available. So she  
41 wants to make sure we have enough supervision. Next Thursday is August 15<sup>th</sup>. We originally  
42 said 10:00, but then you said no food. So we should avoid lunch time.

43 Chairman Isaks said, the materials are a kind of paint remover. So there should be no food there.  
44 Ms. Makinen suggested maybe do it at 1:00.

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1 Chairman Isaks said we will work it out.

2

3 Chairman Isaks mentioned the signs. We have two bids for fences. They are about \$200 apart.  
4 Mr. Edwards said he would lean towards the less expensive one. The gate is to be more of a  
5 deterrent.

6 Ms. Makinen said, it won't have to be opened and closed frequently. It would only be open for  
7 emergency access into the town forest for maintenance on the detention basin. So it would be  
8 very rare.

9

10 Mr. Boyd said he would motion to go with the \$2,877 version.

11 Ms. Makinen said that we also have one for \$2,150.

12

13 There was a discussion of the quotes.

14

15 **MOTION by Mr. Boyd to go with the one for \$3,100.**

16 **SECOND by Mr. Blake.**

17

18 Mr. Edwards said, it was brought to his attention that the post would hold up better, with the  
19 hollow pole, if they could pour concrete right into the post.

20 Ms. Makinen said she can ask about that.

21

22 Mrs. Harvey asked, have you looked at these various gates?

23 Mr. Edwards said that he is not knowledgeable about them.

24 Mrs. Harvey wants to make sure we're not getting junk. Has anyone looked at them to see what  
25 we are getting, and then come back with a recommendation?

26 Ms. Makinen said she asked the DPW Director what he recommended. He recommended Fences  
27 Unlimited because we have worked with them a lot in the past. So she got a quote from them.

28 But at the last meeting, it was requested that we get additional quotes, so she got one from  
29 Granite State Fence, which was lower. Fences Unlimited came recommended from DPW, but  
30 Granite State Fence was lower.

31 Mrs. Harvey suggested that we should go look at these things.

32 Don Marotte said he would be willing to look at them because he has experience in that.

33

34 Mr. Boyd withdrew his motion

35

36 Mr. Marotte said he will go to both companies and look at these fences. He will also ask about  
37 the charge for filling the post with concrete.

38

39 Chairman Isaks mentioned the timber harvest.

40 Mr. Edwards said, we got an email from the town forester that it is put off until at least after  
41 Labor Day.

42 Ms. Makinen said she was contacted by an avid mountain biker who is interested in making the  
43 town forest more friendly and creating a designated trail for mountain bikes. She gave him a map  
44 to look at and mark up. He'll do research and come before the Conservation Commission with a

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1 proposal. He's working on that. She thanked him for coming to the town and working with us,  
2 instead of just going out and building the trails. She also let him know it has to be approved by  
3 the Conservation Commission and Southeast Land Trust. And we'd probably also consult with  
4 Ron Klemarczyk for his advice on proper trail placement. He'll take that into consideration and  
5 put together a proposal.

6 Chairman Isaks asked, does he represent a group?

7 Ms. Makinen said he is connected with lots of groups, but doesn't he represent a specific one.

8

9 Chairman Isaks mentioned the drums at Hummingbird Lane. Those were removed. And as of yet  
10 we don't have a report from EPA.

11

12 Mrs. Harvey mentioned the signs on the gate.

13 Ms. Makinen said, those were installed. Dave Wholley installed the sign on the gate. We'll have  
14 to look at it but he had no problem installing it.

15 Chairman Isaks said that Mr. Wholley sent a memo that the sign was on the gate. We have to  
16 open the gate to see if it opens.

17 Mrs. Harvey explained that we had an email from Bill Dumont saying that if the is sign installed  
18 on the gate, it may interfere with the gate opening.

19 Chairman Isaks said we will check the gate.

20

#### 21 4. Conservation Commission Goals

22

23 Chairman Isaks mentioned the rules of procedure. There are still a number of items that are  
24 involved. Should we keep looking at them or maybe all of the changes should be completed and  
25 then bring it back to the commission? We keep working at it and finding things to add. She  
26 suggested that we table this until we get the rest of it together.

27 Ms. Makinen said, the major ones remaining are the procedure for non-public sessions. Mr.

28 Barnes will be helping with that. The other item is the new wetlands rules from DES that will be  
29 going into effect. They recently announced training dates for these new wetland rules and those  
30 dates are included in the packet. She will attend the first one. They are 4 hour sessions. If anyone  
31 can attend, we'll learn a lot.

32 Chairman Isaks said, they are in the middle of the week. But there is one that will be held at the  
33 NHACC meeting. We should go to that.

34

35 Chairman Isaks mentioned the update of the open space master plan. There is a memo from Tim  
36 Roache, at the Rockingham Planning Commission, which is in the packet. We can set up a  
37 meeting to discuss it.

38 Mrs. Harvey said, there is no update on that. She just got this a few days ago and hasn't had a  
39 chance to look into it. We need to set up a meeting with RPC.

40 Ms. Makinen said we haven't done that yet. She and John Vogel were looking at the open space  
41 master plan, trying to figure out if some of this can be done in house and we figured that RPC  
42 would do the best job and they would have the time to do it. The Conservation Commission has  
43 the funds available to do that. If you go that route, that's what she recommends.

44 Chairman Isaks said, it says the range is around \$5,000. Who pays for that?

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1 Ms. Makinen said, it would cost the commission around \$5,000. But she doesn't think they know  
2 how much of the mapping and GIS work that we have already done. We can reduce the scope  
3 and price because some work was done already.

4 Mrs. Harvey said, this is the current plan. She went through 10 of the 25 pages and ran into  
5 roadblocks. It needs to be updated, but she doesn't know how to get the details to do that. It is  
6 worthwhile to get it done.

7  
8 Mr. Boyd said, he has worked on this with Linda. We are more up to date today, then that report.  
9 He'd like to see us integrate all those things and maybe even DES, to have this access on our  
10 website. Right now the current master plan is outdated but it is because we didn't have the  
11 equipment or John Vogel back then. So between the staff, GIS, Rockingham Planning  
12 Commission, and DES, we should combine all those things to have this data. He'd like to see us  
13 go in that direction. He can meet with John.

14 Mrs. Harvey said she won't be able to do this until September.

15 Mr. Boyd suggested that we get John to start working on this with Rockingham Planning  
16 Commission. He would like to see us spend the money to bring ourselves into this century with  
17 the tools and people we have. And also tie in with other groups.

18 Ms. Makinen said, Tim Roache of Rockingham Planning Commission recommended that we  
19 meet with him to have a scoping meeting to discuss what needs to be done. We can let him know  
20 what John has already done and give him the data and research that Linda and Steve were  
21 working on. We need a scoping meeting before the work can be done.

22 Chairman Isaks asked, will they be able to give us a timeline to get it done?

23 Ms. Makinen said, she is sure they will. But we won't be able to have the scoping meeting until  
24 Linda gets back.

25  
26 Chairman Isaks mentioned the monarch butterfly conservation.

27 Mrs. Harvey said she has seen butterflies flying around and she got pictures. She showed the  
28 pictures and explained what is in the pictures which include the milkweeds, and a couple with  
29 butterflies. She has also seen the Monarchs there when she didn't have her camera.

30 Chairman Isaks said, the New Hampshire Wildlife groups, theirs have leaves with cocoons on  
31 them. Have we seen that?

32 Mrs. Harvey said no. She hasn't gone down to look at them. If anyone else wants to go look at  
33 them, she'd love to have more help.

34 Ms. Makinen said, there is a lot of milkweed around Hawkins Farm.

35  
36 Mr. Marotte went on the railtrail looking at it. He saw a Monarch laying eggs, on the ones at the  
37 common. He has been growing milkweed at his house and there are caterpillars on those.

38 Mr. Boyd said, this is why he wants to integrate the information, to have these projects so people  
39 can access it. This would help get people more excited about getting involved.

40  
41 Chairman Isaks said that Dave Blake contacted the Loon conservation committee to see if there  
42 is any group on this area that is doing the buyback program.



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1 Mr. Blake said he didn't get any direct answer. They don't have a lot of people doing this. There  
2 are fewer people than there are lakes to cover. He mentioned a radio commercial he heard from  
3 the loon preservation committee.

4 Chairman Isaks thinks it is to contact them and they will let people know if there are buyback  
5 programs in the area.

6 Mr. Blake said, our loons are there. He hasn't found a nest or eggs. There is a pair. Arlington  
7 Pond has a nesting pair. There is someone who takes photos and he watches for the loons. Mr.  
8 Blake will get information from him. He spoke about the loons on the lake.

9 Chairman Isaks mentioned the Bald Eagles on Canobie. They had 3 eggs that hatched and they  
10 are now gone.

11 Mr. Blake said he saw two and they are gone. He mentioned the Osprey nest. He thinks they left  
12 because of the construction that is going on.

13 Chairman Isaks said that the Osprey had 3 chicks. Two of them left, and one is still in the nest.  
14

#### 15 5. Review of Correspondence

16

17 Chairman Isaks mentioned the violation notice that we got from NHDES. It is for 42 South  
18 Shore Road. This was for informational purposes. Also in the packet is the 4 hour training  
19 sessions. One item she passed out was about public meetings. The rules and regulations for  
20 public meetings all come under the New Hampshire Right to Know law, which are Federal laws.  
21 There was a question about, what is a meeting and what is not a meeting. We have discussed this  
22 before. If we have fewer than a quorum, that is not a meeting. She mentioned social meetings,  
23 which can be planned but there can be no official business discussed. The rest of the information  
24 is there about public meetings. The third bullet on there, regarding what is a meeting, is the one  
25 she'd like to bring to your attention.  
26

27 Mrs. Harvey mentioned the easements. Kerri had handed out a memo from Chris Kane. Kerri has  
28 received the reports by email, but not the physical reports.

29 Ms. Makinen said they were attached to the email but she hasn't had a chance to look at them.  
30 He attached the ones he listed.

31 Mrs. Harvey said, in the past he provided physical copies and we paid for that. That is still part  
32 of this last contract that is not received. But he said that one property he monitored has  
33 significant violations. So that will probably be the first one that the town needs to take action on.

34 Ms. Makinen will look into that. She hasn't received that report yet. She will review it when she  
35 gets it and decide how to move forward. It will probably start with a letter to the homeowner.

36 Mrs. Harvey said, this is on Old Coach Road. She thinks that is a homeowner's association, but  
37 we need to see if they even have an association. Chris Kane mentioned that he has an assistant.  
38 He is getting more business than he can handle. When we start doing the re-monitoring we  
39 should consider his suggestion of using the assistant at a lower cost. The original monitoring cost  
40 more because they had to be done from scratch and establish a baseline. But the remonitoring  
41 shouldn't involve as much effort and should be significantly less of an expense.  
42

43 Chairman Isaks asked, will he be sending us the report for the next meeting?

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1 Ms. Makinen said, the four that he listed (Gillis Farm, Silverbrook Crossing. F&B Realty and  
2 Design One) were attached to the email. The last one with all the violations he has not completed  
3 yet.

4 Chairman Isaks said regarding the easement, there was discussion with Duane Hyde from  
5 Southeast Land Trust, as to whether or not he'd be willing to do a discussion for us, or a  
6 workshop on the easements. That would be valuable. She has been to a couple seminars on  
7 easements. Will he be available to do that, or should we look for someone else?

8 Ms. Makinen said, he hasn't replied yet. He is very busy. It is something he would like to do, but  
9 not sure he has time. She will give him a chance to respond and if he can't, maybe he can  
10 recommend someone else.

11  
12 Mrs. Harvey said that DES asked us to provide a mitigation list. She and Kerri and updated that  
13 list. The Conservation Commission has an easement on land behind the old post office. It is for  
14 sale on Main Street. There is access to it from a couple different locations. We specifically  
15 included in the easement that this property is to be considered as a parcel for mitigation for  
16 reconstruction into a wetland, because it had been seriously altered and degraded when the town  
17 put a sewer line in there. A wetland scientist told us that the flooding on Main Street could be  
18 alleviated to some degree with a reconstruction to that land. We paid for the easement and had it  
19 drawn up to allow us to go in there and do mitigation. It is a few acres. She doesn't know if it  
20 was monitored. Mark West was the wetland scientist. That should be added to the mitigation list.  
21 Mark West felt that we could really make a significant difference back there by increasing the  
22 wetland capacity that was interrupted by the sewer pipeline. The next item she would like to  
23 discuss is the ordinances. We have to have at least one, maybe more, ordinances go on the ballot  
24 in March. We need to start working on those now. We make recommendations to the Planning  
25 Board for these. There are a couple of them. The one about transferring the town owned land in  
26 North Salem to conservation land, will be a regular ballot item. But we have to have a public  
27 hearing on it, unless the Board of Selectmen wants to do it for us.

28  
29 Mr. Barnes said, that decision isn't made by the Board of Selectmen. It is made by the voters.

30 Mrs. Harvey said, it goes through the Board of Selectmen before it goes to the ballot.

31 Mr. Barnes said, it doesn't have to. This commission can do that. Or a resident can submit a  
32 warrant article.

33 Mrs. Harvey said, that would be a citizen's petition.

34 Mr. Barnes said he had mentioned to the board that the Conservation Commission is looking for  
35 that parcel of land, and for the board to bring forward a warrant article, but he hasn't had  
36 feedback yet.

37  
38 Mrs. Harvey also mentioned the conservation fund. The proceeds from the timber harvest, that  
39 money has gone into the conservation fund. We may need to have an item to clarify that and  
40 make it legal.

41 Ms. Makinen said she will have to do research because she thinks it was voted on way back.

42 Mrs. Harvey said, what is happening now is not what was voted on. So we should clarify that.

43 We are supposed to have a separate town forest fund, and all the expenses for the town forest are  
44 supposed to come from that part of the fund. What we can put in the wetlands ordinance is, for

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1 all construction in wetlands, instead of using the black silt fence, which is supposed to be  
2 removed but never happens, that we should change the ordinance to say silt stockings be used.  
3 Or that they can't use the plastic silt fence. She suggested that the wetlands ordinance have a  
4 section that would include that language and it would need a public hearing and to go to the  
5 Planning Board. That process has to start now.

6  
7 Mr. Blake said how that works is, the plastic is behind that, so that any excess water can't get  
8 through there. Without the plastic, things can get through it.

9 Mrs. Harvey said that is not her understanding. We will have to clarify that. The silt stockings  
10 usually don't have plastic.

11  
12 Chairman Isaks suggested that Mrs. Harvey give us a list and we can look at it and have more  
13 information to discuss it at the next meeting or at the October meeting.

14 Mrs. Harvey said we can't wait too long because we need to have public meetings and then go to  
15 the Planning Board.

16 Chairman Isaks asked, when is that due?

17 Mrs. Harvey said, she thinks in November.

18 Ms. Makinen said she will talk to Ross and get his advice.

19  
20 There was discussion about this issue.

21  
22 Mrs. Harvey said, whether we do citizens petitions or go to the Board of Selectmen, it needs to  
23 get started.

24 Ms. Makinen said, she will speak with staff and figure out what needs to happen.

25 Chairman Isaks asked, when do the citizens petitions have to be in?

26 Ms. Makinen said, she thinks January.

27  
28 Chairman Isaks mentioned the meeting with Duane Hyde.

29 Ms. Makinen said that she and Linda met with him. We looked at a few different options for  
30 some priority areas in town and came up with a game plan to move forward with those areas. If  
31 the commission wants to discuss specifics of the land acquisitions that we talked about, then we  
32 can do a non-public session. But she has a couple of other things to discuss first. One is that the  
33 town was presented with an award from Southeast Land Trust. We were given a plaque for a  
34 conservation partner award for the town forest acquisition. This is hung up, upstairs in town hall.  
35 The other is, Ross has worked on the Conservation Commission budget for 2020. That is  
36 separate from the conservation fund. This is a town budget item for the Conservation  
37 Commission. She explained what this covers. We basically just did what we did last year. If  
38 there are any changes, we need to get those in now.

39 Chairman Isaks asked, is that presented to the commission?

40 Ms. Makinen said it's a town budget. She is just letting you know about it. There are no changes  
41 in it.

42 Mrs. Harvey said, our training budget is inadequate. She is not sure how it gets increased. Every  
43 year we go over.

44 Ms. Makinen said she can try to request a higher training budget.

## DRAFT

- 1  
2 Mr. Boyd asked, regarding the non-public, is there actually any information?  
3 Ms. Makinen said, we have information on how to move forward for each parcel that we  
4 discussed.  
5  
6 **MOTION by Mrs. Harvey to go into non-public session under the provisions of RSA 91-**  
7 **A:3-II(d) – Land Acquisition.**  
8 **SECOND by Mr. Barnes.**  
9  
10 **Steve Boyd - yes**  
11 **Arthur Barnes - yes**  
12 **Glen Edwards - yes**  
13 **Ruth Tanner Isaks - yes**  
14 **Linda Harvey - yes**  
15 **Dave Blake - yes**  
16 **Rhonda McCune - yes**  
17  
18 Chairman Isaks said, we will come back into public session after, but we will immediately  
19 adjourn.  
20  
21 The commission went into non-public session at 8:39 p.m.  
22  
23 Minutes by: Susan Strugnell, Conservation Commission Recording Secretary  
24 Approved: Conservation Commission  
25 Date: