

**Commission Members Present:** Chair Leanne Miner, Vice Chair Bill Knee, Members Pat deBeer, Rich Cooper, and Cindy Crane (remote) and Luke Hurley (remote).

**Also Present:** Kathy Clement

## **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Miner called the meeting to order at 6:39 pm and announced the following:

In accordance with Emergency Order #12, the Conservation Commission is permitted to utilize emergency meeting provisions of RSA 91-A to conduct this meeting through electronic means while preserving, to the extent feasible, the public's right to observe and listen contemporaneously.

The following E-meeting procedures will be followed in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order:

1. If anyone has problems with accessing the meeting, they can call the Town Hall at 603 895-3200, extension 306 or email [landuse@fremont.nh.gov](mailto:landuse@fremont.nh.gov) for assistance during the meeting.
2. If for some reason the public is unable to access the meeting, the meeting will be adjourned.

## **I. ROLL CALL**

Ms. Miner conducted a roll call of meeting attendees and public participants. The following Conservation Commission Members responded as present:

1. Leanne Miner
2. Cindy Crane (remote)
3. Pat deBeer
4. Rich Cooper
5. Bill Knee

## **II. MINUTES**

**Ms. Miner motioned to accept the minutes of November 2, 2020 as amended. Mr. Cooper seconded, and the vote was unanimous 5-0.**

## **III. CONTINUED BUSINESS**

1. Hare Trapping Permit – The Committee discussed and voted at the November 2nd meeting to recommend a maximum number of hare that may be trapped. At that meeting 2 members recommend trapping 2 hare and 3 members recommend trapping 3 hare. Ms. Miner contacted Mr. Eaton regarding the decision, and he stated that he wanted to have the same amount of hare that were approved last year (the current request did not specify the amount of hare he was requesting). Ms. Miner reviewed all emails and correspondence from last year and the Committee had recommended 4 hares. She recommended to Mr. Eaton that he call NH Fish and Game (which he did). Fish and Games, Ms. Bordeau, called Mr. Cooper stating that Mr. Eaton has a State permit for trapping 20 hare a year, and if Fremont would like to recommend 4 hares again this year, she would support that.

**After more discussion Ms. Miner motioned to grant Mr. Eaton a total of 3 hare to be trapped in Glen Oaks Forest for 2021. Mr. Cooper seconded, and the roll call vote was 5-0.**

**Ms. Miner motioned to grant permission for Mr. Eaton to trap the hare from January to March of 2021. Mr. Cooper seconded, and the roll call vote was 5-0.**

Although voting in favor of granting these permissions, Ms. deBeer noted she had the following concerns: Fremont does not have an accurate count for the existing snow shoe hare population. Ms. deBeer is concerned regarding spread of a new virus in hares and ongoing inoculation efforts. She is also concerned about the hare population in general which is food for larger animals.

2. Natural Resource Inventory (NRI) – Ms. Miner stated that she has finished formatting and will pull the document together and distribute to members. The Committee had voted to accept with formatting so when it is complete Ms. Miner will forward to the Planning Board. The Planning Board will approve at their public hearing at which time there may be additional comments.
3. Conservation
  - a. Boylan – Ms. Miner thanked the member for the participation in this process and told the members that she has reached out to the Town’s attorney to complete that paperwork.
  - b. Brett – This is now closed and there was a meeting with SELT.
  - c. Ms. Miner stated that Ms. Crane’s comments about the Scribner development brought some good discussion at the Planning Board meeting, and that they felt the same and were behind her comment. The question was asked if there are other ways to incentivize builders and residents to conserve land.
  - d. CTAP Priority Protection Mapping - Miner brought out a map from CTAP on Priority Protection. RPC may have this map and it may be on the town google site. There was mention of doing a productivity workshop with this map. Ms. deBeer mentioned that plan was done in 2010 and needs to be updated. There was discussion about looking at properties to recommend for conservation. Ms. Miner is waiting on maps for Natural Resources, and it was suggested using this with the current maps to do an overlay to identify areas.
4. Town Forest Management – Mr. Cooper stated that all projects that Mr. Howland mentioned are complete in Oak Ridge North and South. Everything looks great.
5. Oak Ridge North Logging – No update
6. Town Forest Ordinance – Ms. Miner mentioned to Mr. Howland that any usage changes would need to be changed by changing the Town Ordinance. They have decided to hang signage to make recommendations for trail use, these recommendations will be for safety when using the trails. The Committee feels that most residents will follow the recommendations.

#### **IV. NEW BUSINESS**

The Committee met November 19, 2020 in the Town Hall upstairs meeting room regarding the comments for the pending permit for the Galloway site. Ms. Crane drafted some comments, Ms. deBeer had comments and would like to read them to the committee, all members agreed to add these comments to the previous list. There were no additional comments from Mr. Hurley or the committee members.

**Ms. Miner motioned to submit the comments as written including the comments from Ms. deBeer. Mr. Knee seconded and the motion passed 5-0.**

Mr. Hurley left the meeting at 6:47 pm.

## **V. OTHER DEPARTMENT NEWS**

- I. Scribner – Violette Estates – This has been continued until December 16, 2020 the Committee did a site walk on Sunday December 6, 2020. With the center line now marked they were able to see how the line of sight was and spoke about trees that needed to be cleared. There were questions about which trees needed to be removed and if that included abutters properties. Ms. Miner mentioned that the only trees to be removed were on the property itself. There was also some discussion about moving a stone wall and where it may be moved to. They have not seen plans for that yet.

The committee had questions on the open space being put into an easement and who would be monitoring it. The Town does not monitor and has no resources to do the monitoring, Open Space will occasionally go and clear spaces. This is not a large area and there was discussion on who would monitor it like Rockingham County Conservation District or NRCS.

Ms. deBeer has questions regarding the type of cistern it would have and how is it filled. Ms. Miner mentioned that the Fire Department was OK with the system and has approved with the specs. Mr. Knee mentioned that the cistern near him has no impact on the neighborhood. Ms. Crane mentioned that they should not use the firefighting chemical known as AFFF due to risk of contamination. Ms. Miner shared the revised plans showing the fire pond and cistern, and shared details for the plans showing the cistern from the website. Ms. Miner will inquire at the Planning Board meeting how this will or will not affect the neighborhood.

Ms. Miner mentioned that the West property is off the market until maybe spring. She spoke to Corey and has sent letters.

Ms. Miner mentioned the 2 applications before the Planning Board.

- i. The first is a conditional use permit for the property formerly Rowes gas station on Main Street. They are asking to put a plumbing business in with the only addition being a 40' storage container behind the building. The Committee discussed this stating that the site is good and there is plenty of space from the 200' buffer for the river, they agreed that this would be a good use.
- ii. The second is a conditional use permit for Joe Nichols on Chester Rd. to use an existing building for a home business.

There were no issues from the Committee on these permits, and no comments for the Planning Board.

**VI. REPORT FROM OPEN SPACE**

No Report

**VII. ADMINISTRATION**

1. Calendar – Next Conservation Committee meeting January 4, 2021
2. Administration/Budget – Ms. Miner stated that the Conservation budget is approved as is.  
They will not move money to Planning Board.
3. Incoming Correspondence – Personal letters to Committee members.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**With no further business, Ms. Miner made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 pm.  
Mr. Knee seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was unanimous 5-0.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Clement