Cindy Robertson called the meeting to order at 4:30pm.

Present: Cindy Robertson-Chair, David Ross-Vice Chair, JoCarol Woodburn-Member, Phil Fitanides-Member, Deborah Miville-Member, Alex Walczyk-Town Council Representative (arrived at 4:34pm)

Not Present: Robert Better- Alternate, John Pieroni-Alternate, William Herlicka- Alternate

Staff: Leann Fuller, Administrative Assistant

Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

I. Consent Agenda
   i. Shoreland PBN Notification
   ii. Transfers from the Conservation Account
   iii. Town and City Magazine

JoCarol Woodburn motioned to approve the Consent agenda, seconded by David Ross. Motion passed.

II. Meeting Minutes Approvals
    - June 8, 2020

David Ross motioned to approve the meeting minutes from June 8, 2020, seconded by Deborah Miville. Motion passed.

III. Appointments
    i. Rue Teel, Stewardship Coordinator for Bear-Paw Quimby Mountain

Rue visiting the Quimby Mountain site on July 1st and noticed significant amount of ATV use which is not specifically forbidden in the easement or by the Town. The ATV’s are causing an issue with surface water which is specifically forbidden in the easement. Rue followed the trail and the property boundary, which is a stone wall, has been altered. That is forbidden by state law. Trees were also cut. Bear-Paw sent a letter to the abutters who committed the violations and have not heard back yet. Cindy Robertson wants to figure out a way to prevent damage from being done. That includes limiting, prohibiting, or minimizing the use of ATV’s. Rue stated that in the easement, prohibiting this use is up to the Town. None of Bear-Paw’s easements have forbidden ATV use. Rue highly recommends some remediation be done and to not allow ATV use in that area. Bear-Paw easement signs have been posted. There has not been continued use since that time. Bear-Paw did put a game camera out for two weeks and there was no activity. Rue provided a map showing the routes she took when she was monitoring the property.
David Ross made a motion to amend the Quimby Mountain easement language to include “no motorized vehicle use allowed” to make it consistent with all other properties, seconded by Alex Walczyk. Motion passed.

Tim Bernier, T.F. Bernier, Inc.
Goffstown Road, Map 22, Lot 32
Special Exception for wetland crossing for driveway

Tim Bernier, T. F. Bernier, Inc., presented two proposed wetlands crossing for one residential driveway as part of a 6 lot subdivision consisting of 34 acres off Goffstown Road. These are the only wetland crossings in the whole development. The wetland crossings are for a driveway going into a 5 acre lot. The first crossing is essentially roadside drainage. That crossing is 265 square feet. The Second crossing is 339 square feet, another culvert. It is a very rocky site. During the deed research, it was found that this property has been referred to as forest lands for the last 150 years. The reason for that was found when test pits were dug. There are rocks everywhere. Total wetland impact is 604 square feet. This did go through DES and Fish and Game. There was no issue with the culverts as they are short, and wildlife can still cross.

David Ross spoke about the area. It is covered with ferns and ivy. David sees that as two wetlands coming together to pass through. It is a corridor for wildlife. David is concerned about the size of the culverts. 18” is not a big culvert and critters will not go through it. David would like to see a larger culvert. David would like to not see any curbing or fencing but those stipulations are not enforceable.

Alex Walczyk requested that Tim explain what has been done regarding the Blanding’s Turtles. Tim Bernier explained that there is a notification listed on the plans regarding the Blanding’s Turtles. Any construction workers will be aware of what they look like and what to do if they cross paths with one. They must keep their eye out for them. The development being done is small compared to the amount of land. The driveways are long because of the terrain and there are no buffer disturbances for any large wetland systems. Blanding’s Turtles will cross paved surfaces and curbing will cause a problem for them as well as traffic. Driveways are okay. The

Cindy Robertson has no problems with the wetland crossings being proposed and the size of the culvert since there is notification from Kim Tuttle at Fish and Game that they are fine with it.

David Ross states that it is an unusual environment. His only suggestion is a larger culvert.

David Ross made a motion to send comments to the Zoning Board to include a larger culvert at the second wetland crossing furthest into the property, seconded by Alex Walczyk.

Deborah Miville asked if David had a specific size in mind. David stated that he would just like to see something bigger but no specific number.

Tim Bernier clarified that to get wildlife passage, it would have to be substantially larger culvert. Wildlife would rather go over it then through it as there is a clear site line. Even a 20”-24” culvert would not provide enough light for the turtles to go through.

Motion passed.
IV. Invoices

i. Bear-Paw May 2020 Stewardship Invoice $1,212.50

David Ross made a motion to approve the May 2020 Bear-Paw invoice in the amount of $1,212.50, seconded by Deborah Miville. Motion passed.

ii. Bear-Paw June and July 2020 Stewardship Invoice $1,450.00

David Ross made a motion to approve payment of the June and July 2020 Bear-Paw invoice in the amount of $1,450.00, seconded by JoCarol Woodburn. Motion passed.

iii. Stantec Invoice for Phase III Redesign $808.50 (to come from Capital Reserve Funds)

David Ross made a motion to approve payment of the Stantec invoice for the Phase III redesign in the amount of $808.50 to come from Capital Reserve Funds, seconded by Deborah Miville. Motion passed.

iv. Reimburse JoCarol for expenses incurred for RTP Grant compilation $64.70

David Ross made a motion to approve reimbursement to JoCarol for expenses incurred for the RTP Grant in the amount of $64.70, seconded by Alex Walczyk. Motion passed. JW abstained.

v. New panels for the Merrimack Riverwalk Kiosk $200.00

JoCarol Woodburn explained that there was a request to put up flyers from the Fish and Game about snakes around the Merrimack Riverwalk Trail. When she went to complete the task, there were other flyers taped to the kiosk panels and when she removed them, the tape stayed. She took the panels home to clean them up and they did not come out the greatest. JoCarol called Portland Glass to get an estimate of cost to the replace the panels. The Heads Pond Trail kiosk panels are getting bad as well.

Deborah Miville asked if there something that should be put up to ask people not to stick items on the glass.

JoCarol Woodburn stated that a small sign could be put at the bottom. The panels have been up since 2015.

David Ross made a motion to approve up to $250.00 for 2 new panels for the Merrimack Riverwalk kiosk, seconded by Deborah Miville. Motion passed.

vi. Stantec Invoice for Phase III Redesign $1,343.50 (to come from Capital Reserve Funds)

Deborah Miville made a motion to approve payment of a Stantec invoice for Phase III redesign in the amount of $1,343.50 to come from the Capital Reserve Fund, seconded by David Ross. Motion passed.

vii. All Creatures Pest Control invoice for Beaver Pipe installation $1,690.00

David Ross made a motion to approve payment of the All Creatures Pest Control invoice for the Beaver Pipe installation in the amount of $1,690.00, seconded by JoCarol Woodburn. Motion passed.
V. Other business: Projects, Events, Etc.

i. Update on meeting with School Board regarding the Stewardship Plan

Cindy Robertson explained that the Stewardship plan is on the September 15th School Board agenda. Cindy and Swift will be present. Cindy hopes that the October meeting will yield a public hearing for the Stewardship Plan. Leann Fuller stated that the library may not be open yet so the Conservation Commission may be holding the public hearing in council chambers after their regularly scheduled meeting.

ii. Merrimack Riverwalk Trail Bridge built by Bennett Nelson

Cindy Robertson spoke with Bennett Nelson about his Eagle Scout bridge project. The last thing she heard was that it was put off due to the Coronavirus. Then she received an email regarding the Bollards and how they can be removed to assist with getting his materials down the trail. Then, she received a call that his bridge was done, and he needed a sign off rather quickly. Cindy and Bruce Thomas went out and were pleasantly surprised at how great the bridge came out. Cindy did mention that she wished they had thought about making it ADA compliant as the rest of the trail is. This was supposed to be a temporary bridge, but Cindy has spoken with Dan Tatem and discussed ways to keep it as the permanent bridge. It will just have to be secured and made to be ADA compliant by adding ramps. The Boy Scouts also took a weed whacker to the area and cleared a lot of weeds. Bennett will be attending the December meeting to discuss his project.

Cindy Robertson mentioned that the Annual Report was provided and JoCarol did a great job.

Leann Fuller ran through a couple items. Allenstown abutters had contacted the Community Development Department and mentioned they had an issue with residents continuing to walk through their property, so Cindy met them out there and a sign was put up to try to prevent that.

Kiwanis requested work be done on the Heads Pond Trail to fix a drainage issue. Parks and Recreation did that. Parks and Rec also fixed the broken bollard at the Merrimack Riverwalk Trail. They also purchased a key for them. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 14, 2020 at 4:00pm.

Cindy Robertson spoke with Naomi from SPNHF regarding mowing standards. Steve reached out and asked about the proper mowing plan.

JoCarol Woodburn motioned to adjourn, seconded by Cindy Robertson. Meeting adjourned at 5:40pm.

Minutes respectively submitted by

Leann Fuller
Administrative Assistant

Please see subsequent meeting minutes for any amendments to these minutes.