

NCC Minutes 2/18/20

Open meeting 7:04 p.m.

Present: S. Shope, L. Hill, D. Mason, J. Couture, C. Griffith, J. Asnaani. Guest Duane Hyde from SELT

1) Administrative Business:

- a) Minutes 1/20/20- J. Couture motions to accept, D. Mason seconds, all in favor YES.
- b) Treasurer's report- L. Hill motions to accept, S. Shope seconds, all in favor YES.

2) Old Business:

a) Conner property- 27 acres abutting conservation land. D. Hyde present to discuss options for purchasing. S. Shope stated that the owner is interested in putting it in conservation. He will be in the states in March. Hoping he will entertain a price of \$325,000. Possibility of a conservation buyer not looking likely at this time.

- D. Hyde- Some organizations recreation friendly, some not. Aquatic Resource Mitigation Program not trail friendly. The Wetlands Reserve Easement Program (federal) tends to be focused on wetlands. More trail friendly but would not allow a parking lot. The owner has to apply for and has income limits. It only pays per acre value and is a slow process. They may have a rolling grant coming up. NRCS would hold the conservation easement. If you combined ARM and WRE it might generate \$66,000

- LWCF (Land and water conservation fund) provides federal money to the state for improving recreational opportunities. Requires municipal ownership and could have a grant round this year. \$200,000 limit. D. Hyde could do the paperwork. Focused more on recreation, not conservation but friendly to trails and a parking area. The property would need to abut Water and Conservation properties which it does on the Exeter side. We would need their support. This would not have a conservation easement. An archaeological phase 1A would need to be done at potential site for parking lot. They will inspect the property every 5 years.

- Could combine LWCF with LCHIP- LCHIP recreation friendly but very competitive. They do require deed restrictions such as a conservation easement. Could be a source for up to another \$100,000 in funds.

- S. Shope- Could we combine to WRE and LWCF? D. Hyde replied probably not as LWCF doesn't want restrictions. J. Asnaani asked whether we could apply to both and D. Hyde replied yes.

- D. Hyde will meet with Conner in March. He also said SELT could generate a letter to the community when the time comes.

b) Old Lee Rd. postponed again. J. Couture is now a member of the Planning Board.

3) New Business:

- a) Received a flyer from the Newmarket Cons. Comm. concerning planting wildflowers. The Newfields garden club is having them planted at Newman Sellers property.
- b) S. Callaghan to attend our next meeting to discuss monitoring reports.

4) Next meeting 3/16/20

Adjourn 8:10 p.m.

NCC member L. Hill, 2/18/20

