

## **TOWN OF BEDFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES**

**June 26, 2018**

BCTV Meeting Room | 7:00 P.M. | 10 Meetinghouse Road

A meeting of the Bedford Conservation Commission was held on Tuesday, June 26, 2018 at the Bedford Meeting Room, 10 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford, NH. Present were: James Drake (Acting Chairman), Mac McMahan, Maggie Wachs, Catherine Rombeau (Town Council), and Karen Elmer (Planner I).

Acting Chairman Drake called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and introduced members of the Commission.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

It was announced that approval of minutes will be tabled until the next meeting.

### **Dredge and Fill Applications:**

It was announced that there were no Dredge and Fill applications to review.

### **New Business:**

- Bedford Land Trust (BLT)– Discussion regarding the Van Loan Preserve bridge replacement project:

Janine Percopous (Co-chair of Bedford Land Trust) and Brian Nolan (Trustee) were present to address the new Van Loan Preserve bridge replacement project.

Ms. Percopous gave a timeline of the changes on the property, which listed that in December 2000, BLT received an easement on the properties which is about 68 acres of forest and wetlands. In 2006, The Appalachian mountain club collaborated with BLT to build trail systems for a total of \$17,000. Also in 2006, signage was done by the boy scouts. In 2011, the Van Loan family donated the property to BLT. In 2016, the process was started to replace decaying items by the boy scouts. In 2018, the BLT is proposing that 10 bog bridges be replaced.

Mr. Nolan stated that they would like to replace all decaying bog bridges and use pressure treated 4x6 beams that will rest on 2x4 cedar beams. The cost for materials would be \$528.51. They would also like to replace 4 sign posts used at the property currently in decay. The amount for the sign posts would be \$71.61. He stated that a bog bridge is used as an elevated platform to navigate over wetlands on trails, as to not damage the trail itself. The cedar logs would be easily replaced in the future when necessary, but are mostly rot and insect resistant. He also stated that some of the current bridges are on tires, making it difficult for small children to get up on them.

Ms. Walks stated she would like to collaborate with BLT to get the information on the property's history on the website.

Acting Chairman Drake suggested the possibility of doing a kiosk at the entrance of the Van Loan property. Ms. Percopous stated that the land is not owned by BLT, but is owned by the Town of Bedford. Acting Chairman Drake suggested either checking with the eagle scouts or coming back to ask for money for the kiosk project. Mr. McMahan asked about parking, which Ms. Percopous stated there is some parking at Mueller Park.

**MOTION by Ms. Rombeau to approve the request for repairs/replacements supplies for the Van Loan Preserve Bridge Replacement Project and the cost is not to exceed \$700. Mr. McMahan duly seconded the motion. Vote taken - all in favor. Motion carried.**

### **Old Business:**

- Update on Pulpit Rock Trail Grant:

It was announced that work has been started on the Pulpit Rock Trail Grant, but they are still looking for volunteers.

- Update on FORECO project at Greenfield Farms:

Ms. Elmer, requested money to order new signs for the Greenfield Farms open space signage project. She was given \$1000, but they only cost \$360.00 for 500 signs. She believes work will begin in the fall once the Pulpit Rock Trail Grant project has been completed.

- Mission Statement review:

It was announced that this item will be tabled to the next meeting.

- Update on outreach:

Ms. Elmer mentioned that Ms. Wachs will be helping with write-ups on properties, including updates put on the town's Facebook page.

- Update on trail mapping project:

Ms. Elmer stated that an intern will be available for GPS mapping of trails. They will be collaborating with UNH to make a trail finder map. The amount to do all trails will not exceed \$3000 and will be completed before the end of the year. The funds would come from the Land Use Account. The Planning Department has a contract with the intern for all the work.

**MOTION by Ms. Walks to approve the GPS mapping project and that the total cost will not exceed the amount of \$3000 for Brandon Beauvoir to complete the project. Mr. McMahan duly seconded the motion. Vote taken - all in favor. Motion carried.**

### **Reports of Committees:**

- Update on Easement monitoring by the Bedford Land Trust:

Ms. Elmer stated that the Bedford Land Trust is working on easement monitoring and are sending updates when problems arise, such as trash, encampment, etc.

Ms. Elmer noted that the trail entrance signs will be put up on Joppa Hill at the request of Chris Bandazian.

**Adjournment:**

**MOTION by Acting Chairman Drake to adjourn. Ms. Rombeau duly seconded the motion. Vote taken - all in favor. Motion carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:29pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ashley Schoff