



CONSERVATION COMMISSION

30 PAYSON HILL ROAD
RINDGE, NH 03461

Tel. (603) 899-5181 Fax (603) 899-2101 TDD 1-800-735-2964

Minutes for Meeting on October 12, 2026, 6:30 p.m. Rindge Town Office

David Drouin, Chair	Present
Richard Mellor, Vice Chair	Present
Rob Rubendall, Clerk	Present
Deni Dickler, Regular	Resigned
Fred Rodgers, Regular	Present
Richard Synnott, Regular	Absent
Del Friedman, Regular	Present
AL Lefebvre, Alternate	Present
Phil Simeone, Alternate	Present

OFFICIAL NOTICES

- 2026-12 Variance: Minor Subdivision; Map 2, Lot 61-2, 668 Forristall Road, Silver Lining Development, LLC
 - Approved by ZBA, September 22.
- 2026-13 Variance: Naresky at 32 McGregor
 - No wetlands involved.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES for September 24, 2026

- Rogers moved to approve minutes of September 24, 2026, seconded by Lefebvre.
 - Commission voted 5-0-2, motion approved.

ACCOUNT APPROVALS & UPDATE

- Richard Mellor reimbursement for Landscape Scale printing - \$54
- Taylor Invasive Plant Control - \$1,250
- White Mt. Horticultural - \$550
- Additional refreshment reimbursement for Lefebvre from 9/24 Duncan presentation.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Fall Hike at Converse Meadow; Sunday, October 18 at 1:30
 - Article submitted to Monadnock Ledger Transcript, hike possibly let by Rubendall.

OLD BUSINESS

- Approval of signs for Merrimac Conservation Partnership (handout) – Rubendall
 - Commission reviewed printouts and next steps. Friedman will lead commission proofreading, Lefebvre will be primary liaison with printer. Commission is pleased with the signs, pending proofreading.
- Easement monitoring update – Mellor
 - Two days of observation at Converse and Mattabeseck with Richard Pendleton, then Miriam Hunt, joined by Rubendall.
 - Followed with observation at Sandback where a tree stand was discovered on the MA side of property.
 - Mellor noted that contact at Ashburnham was interesting in bringing the three neighboring land trusts together for an online meeting.
 - Mellor added that it may be worthwhile to invest in surveying and proper boundary marking in future.
- Trail work update – Mellor

- Three volunteers from Conservation Commission, 12+ hours of volunteer work clearing a new trail at Mattabeseck. Discussed GPS mapping updates for Rindge Natural Resource Planner.
 - Commission discussed motivating Conservation Corps, Rubendall will send email to reengage.
- Floating Bridge update – Mellor
 - Water levels down, bridge stable
- Knotwood treatment – Mellor
 - Signs from Cabin were placed at Tetreault. Treatments done at Tetreault, County Rd., Perry Rd & Mattabeseck. Gravel Pit parking area.
- Dayton Duncan Talk report – Lefebvre
 - Surprisingly low turnout for an exceptional talk. Discussed reactions and plans for next lecture series.
 - The tie-in with Mellor's 50yr recognition ceremony was well done.
 - Lefebvre presented Mellor's plaque to commission. Discussed placement on Converse Bridge of Honor.
 - Lefebvre noted getting a call from private conservation group in Danvers, MA looking for additional information on Liberty Elm program.
 - Discussion on bringing more FPU students to Con Comm events, additional posters, engaging with FPU Raven Recreation and Doug Carty. Possible student project to GIS map FPU trails.
- Conservationist of the Year – Lefebvre
 - Committee being organized, nomination cutoff date will be in mid-November. Decision will be made in December with speaker and presentation in January. Speaker and presentation date TBD.
 - Commission discussed possible speakers and topics.
- Electric Bikes on Conservation Lands – Lefebvre
 - Commission discussed motorized v. non-motorized and presence on trails. No final decision on use of E-bikes.
 - Mellor noted that NH Fish & Game placed camera for trail violations.

NEW BUSINESS

- Conservation Commission Organizational Structure, Present and Future; Discussion
 - Deni Dickler has handed her resignation, sparked discussion of processes for tracking historic processes and change of leadership when necessary.
 - Need for Conservation Commission manual – processes and roles.
 - Friedman offered to create process document to define functions.
 - Rubendall discussed options for subcommittees as a way to manage tasks like marketing, design, etc.
 - Mellor suggested possible subcontractor hire depending on tasks.
 - Pipeline of new members- process for bringing in new members
 - Discussion of presenting potential members commission manual and advertising roles.
 - Rubendall noted that some roles might not need to be at all meetings, if at all.
 - Find what is needed- what partners need to be in the room. Rubendall suggested looking at Conservation Corps. for new talent.
 - Lefebvre suggested making list of necessary tasks and needs then soliciting volunteers.
 - Drouin asked Commission to develop task list between now and next meeting on 10/22 for continued discussion. Members asked to bring notes on their roles based on submission by Dickler.
- Potluck meeting report – Mellor
 - Annual event put on by Cheshire District and Cheshire Con Comm, Mellor attended. Noted interesting turtle presentation, Con Comm will receive a digital copy.
- NHACC Meeting – first Saturday of November
 - Drouin and Mellor plan to attend, Lefebvre likely. Registration deadline 10/30 for early rate.
- Franklin Pierce Environmental Fair Friday 10/23, 10a-2p
 - Con Comm invited to table, bring swag and handouts.
 - Discussed possible adaptation of Venmo or square for card transactions.

ADJOURNMENT

- Rogers moved to adjourn, seconded by Mellor. Commission voted 7-0, meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.



CONSERVATION COMMISSION

30 PAYSON HILL ROAD

RINDGE, NH 03461

Tel. (603) 899-5181 Fax (603) 899-2101 TDD 1-800-735-2964

Respectfully submitted, Amanda Nardini