

## **Alstead Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes for December 1, 2021**

Present: Sarah Webb, Donna Sabin, David Moody, and Joyce Campbell-Counts  
Guests: Misha Golfman and Katia from Kroka, Peter Throop from Monadnock Conservancy, Jeff Littleton

I, Minutes from October 6, 2021 - accepted as read.

II, Kroka easement - Kroka's Misha Golfman attended our meeting, and Peter Throop from Monadnock Conservancy participated via Zoom.

- Supported by a handout with land characteristics, easement terms, and their request for financial support, Misha described a history of the property and its offerings, such as crop fields, blueberry bushes, bee hives, and their use of biodynamic practices.
- He provided copies of a map of the lot to everyone and described dimensions of the lot. Misha added that produce from the lot is provided to the Fall Mountain Food shelf. Peter noted that the Conservancy values protecting open farmland, which this lot does.
- ACC members voted to provide a donation of \$5, 000 to Kroka's budget for this easement, which will come from the conservation budget.

III, Prime Wetlands project with Jeff Littleton

- In early October, the Alstead Planning Board accepted the 2020 Comprehensive Wetlands Study for incorporating it into the Alstead Town Master Plan.
- Prime Wetland designation helps protect land from development, "for the public good."
- In 2022, Jeff and his employee Steve Lamond will identify potential wetlands that would benefit from a Prime Wetland designation, using the NH Method Manual (see link below). A public hearing must be held 30 days before the vote. This effort must be presented at Town Ballot.
  - <https://extension.unh.edu/sites/default/files/media/2021-03/nh-method-cover-table-contents-introduction.pdf>

Continued

- For ACC members and Jeff, this process includes:
  - a. Identifying at least 4 of 12 functional values of wetlands (one has to be wildlife; a wetland has to be at least 1 acre and at least 50 feet wide at its narrowest). Suggested values for Alstead are: eco-health, wildlife, aquatic value, flood storage, and sediment and shoreline nutrient attenuation. The functional value, Noteworthiness, is also important to examine.
  - b. Applying and selecting properties with wetlands that have these values
  - c. Working with landowners to select specific wetlands
  - d. Holding a public hearing to explain the intent and selected properties

IV, Town Report for 2021 due January 1, 2022 - Sarah reviews activities we did in 2021:

- Monitoring easements on Camp Brook, Pine Cliff, and Anderson Road
- Springtime road clean-up/Earth Day
- Kroka easement process
- Pratt Rock trail and outlook clean-up for viewscape
- Camp Brook logging (flanking Route 12A) - examine work done for lands owned by D.C. Timberlands

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Next Meeting on February 2, 2022

Submitted by Joyce Campbell-Counts