

Meeting: Antrim Conservation Commission, January 26, 2023 at 6:00 pm meeting at Town Hall.

Attendees: Peter Beblowski '25', Bob Holmes '24', Linda Bryer '24' and Keith Wolsiefer '25
Public: Rebecca Hull

Absent: Jeremy DeLisle '23', Rod Zwirner-Member-at-Large, and Ron Cheetham '23'

1. Draft November (December 1) and December 29, 2022 meeting notes were reviewed, amended and accepted.
2. Annual Report was written by Peter and sent in to town hall. A copy was reviewed.
3. Bob Holmes is to apply to the NH Coverts Program
<https://extension.unh.edu/natural-resources/wildlife/nh-coverts-project> .
4. On January 9, 2023, Peter submitted to the Planning Department, the Commission's review and comment on the application submitted by Cory & Cynthia Staats for relief from Article XIV to continue residing at 373 Stoddard Road for more than 6 months in a Recreational Vehicle (RV) during the construction of the Applicant's permanent residence.

Following review of the Staats' application, the commission provided a number of comments. First, the NH Wildlife Action Plan was reviewed and documented from the Granit system. Several understandings were provided: 1- that the Staats' have been living in a recreational vehicle (RV) for about 2 years in violation of Antrim Zoning; 2- a building permit has not been issued (no mention of a building permit was made in the application); 3- a review of NHDES OneStop Water Well and Subsurface (septic system) applications/registrations was made and no registered water well or approved septic system for 373 Stoddard Road was found in the NHDES database and finally, 4- there is no known record of the Staats' properly disposing of the septic wastes at the town municipal sewage treatment plant.

Article XIV Supplemental Regulations – L- (2) Occupancy was reviewed and it was found that the Staats' application did not provide the information that indicated that they were following the town regulations. Based upon the violations of the Antrim Zoning Regulations, the Antrim Conservation Commission did not recommend acceptance of the Staats' variance request. However, it was recommended that if the requirements of Article XIV M (4) can be fully met in advance of issuance of a permit for temporary occupancy (PTO) that a PTO may be issued with the understanding that the maximum time for temporary occupancy not exceed nine (9) months.

Rebecca Hull attended the meeting and requested to speak on the Staats matter as an abutter and as a person with additional information. She provided a NHDES Land Resources Management Program Complaint Form (LRMPCF) dated 12/10/2022. In this form Ms Hull documents the following: In summary: 1-an illegal discharge of sewage/wastewater to surface water is occurring; 2- connection of a water supply to a structure without a septic system and 3- use of surface water as a primary water supply. Additionally, she documents that she contacted the town health officer,

Marshall Gale and the town building/code enforcement officer, Dario Carrara about these concerns. She additionally stated that her water well has been impacted by the Staats use. Also, she indicated she has had a Jazwell seal installed by Skillings Drillers to better seal her well.

The NHDES Subsurface Bureau, issued a Notice of Findings dated 12/22/2022 to Ms Hull regarding the violation of RSA 485-A at the Staats' property (effluent discharge and water connection to a surface water body) as a response to the LRMPCF.

In response to the above, the commissioners indicated that it seemed that the Staats' were in violation of both the town zoning regulations and state law (according to NHDES RSA 485-A). It fell upon those whose jurisdiction the violations occurred to do their jobs and that they needed to take proper actions to correct the violations. Ms Hull agree with the above conclusions, thanked the Antrim Conservation Commission for their time and left the meeting.

5. Trails:

- a. **Campbell Pond**- Peter contacted Monadnock Conservancy and they were positive but wanted to know more about placement & location of potential camping area. It is to be determined (tbd) at this time. Peter will also reach out to Steve Lauber about the project. Peter will send a mid-week notice out to members at go out to the pond to scope out the possible trail and check for Japanese Barberry bushes near the northeast corner of the pond. Also, a check of Lidar on the NH Granit system should be made.
- b. **Meadow Marsh Trail** –Maps have been placed in the trailhead box. A Bob walked and cleaned up the trail following the last wind/snow storm.
- c. **Lily Pond Trail** – Trail needs to be hiked following the last wind/snow storm. Sometime in February, we will try take a hike to the ledges, if snow allows and to the heron rookery after the pond freezes solid.
- d. **Hurlin Property** – nothing of note at this time.
- e. **Meetinghouse Hill Trail** to the Meetinghouse Hill Cemetery needs to be re-established. Peter will try to move this along with Andy Robblee.
- f. Also, need to develop an integrated trail management plan for town and Master Plan. This is to be re-visited after the pandemic is resolved.
- g. Several post tops have been made for installation this year by Tod Bryer. <https://naturegroupie.org/citizen-science/picture-post> and <https://picturepost.ou.edu/index.jsp> We need commit to this project. Bob said he had some interest and indicated he has been taking pictures from some posts on conservation land in Stoddard. It was found out that the property (Crider Forest) is in conservation with the Forest Society <https://forestsociety.org/blog->

[post/please-use-our-picture-posts](#) and <https://forestsociety.org/property/james-eleanor-crider-forest>

6. **iNaturalist** may be accessed at <https://www.inaturalist.org/> Please check out the website. It is very interesting and fun to use. Download the app to your phone and start documenting the natural world around you. For things that are unknown they provide an app for kids called Seek https://www.inaturalist.org/pages/seek_app They both work great. Check them out! Please get back to me if you have concerns or questions.
7. Bob reminded us that he thought a Facebook page presence would be good for the commission. This will be discussed in future meetings.
8. **Hikes and paddles:** Hikes to be coordinated with trail work above....
 - a. **Campbell Pond-** in February or March stay tuned.
 - b. **Meadow Marsh** – tbd. Peter obtained some granite slab for steps through stone wall near road crossing. It is anticipated these will be installed sometime in the spring.
 - c. **Lily Pond** - potential hike in the spring and one granite slab was obtained for rotten log step replacement in 2023. Time tbd.
 - d. **Gregg Lake** – Town has received monies through ARAPA program for work on the dam.
 - e. Hurlin Property – tbd
9. **Intents to Cut-** active
 - 22-017-06T- Toumanoff/Hootor Farm, Map 254 Lot 001, Weston Rd., (2 of 6.1+/- acres cut)
 - 22-017-07T- Bernardi, Map 227, Lot 016, North Holt Hill Rd., (14 of 16+/- acres cut)
 - 22-017-09T- Rubin, Map 220, Lot 012, Old Carr Rd., (5.1 of 83.7+/- acres cut)
10. **Wetland Notices:** 11/28//22 Rubin – Old Carr Road – PBN for Forestry
12/14/22 Campbell Family Rev. Trust – Winkleman’s Point Rd. – Shoreland Impact Permit on Franklin Pierce Lake.
12/22/22 Curran – 22 Jackman Shores Rd. – Outstanding Items Requested for Enforcement File- Status request due 12/30/22.
11. **Workshops & meetings**
Harris Center <https://harriscenter.org/events>
Monadnock Conservancy: <http://www.monadnockconservancy.org>
Society for the Protection of NH Forests: <https://forestsociety.org/>
Nature Conservancy: <https://www.nature.org/en-us/about-us/where-we-work/united-states/new-hampshire/contact-us/>
NH Association of Conservation Commissions: <https://www.nhacc.org/>

Next Meeting: tentatively **February 23, 2023 at 6 pm at Town Hall.**

Meeting ended at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Peter Beblowski, Chair

Antrim Conservation Commission