

RCL Notes
Rye Conservation Commission June 2023

June 8 Meeting Official Draft Minutes: [CLICK HERE](#)

June 8 Meeting Video Stream [CLICK HERE](#)

Highlights

Dog Waste at Goss Farm, Town Forest, Brown Farm- Issues at multiple conservation properties including Goss Farm with owners refusing to pick up dog waste even when asked.

Metal Detecting at Goss Farm will not be allowed due to its multiple agricultural uses, pollinator habitats project, buffer considerations, and liability

RCC had an alternate member seat open as of June 8. The open seat has been posted on the Town's website.

Hearings and Commission Business

750 Brackett Road Planting Plan

1270 sq feet of the mowed lawn in the wetlands will be removed and replaced by a total of 20 winterberry and high bush blueberry with switchgrass and conservation grass seed mix. Plan was approved with clarifications to be sought on switch grass planting area.

44 Pioneer Road-Project proposed in 2020 and recommendations made but project was delayed. A new site walk will occur to review.

Brown Lane Farm Flooding and trail work

There is some flooding of the trail into this popular new conservation area. A bog bridge is contemplated.

Mrs. Brown who sold the conservation easement was in attendance and agreed that historically there is flooding there and inquired about the water sources investigation contemplated for the land and inquired if other areas were being considered. Chair replied Rand Forest and Cedar Run are also being looked at and that no digging/drilling has yet occurred at Brown Farm.

“Mr. Brown noted they are really concerned about this and it really surprised them after putting the land into conservation. “

Editor's Note: Conservation easement does include potential for water sources on the property.

Whitehorse Lane

A property is dumping water 20' off the property onto the conservation trail via a buried pipe. The approved plans have recently been found and show proper drains (dry well) were not installed when the house was built. The property owner is not willing to do anything according to a member "because the water is off his land."

Alternate Member Open Position

RCC has an alternate member seat open as of June 8. The open seat has been posted on the Town's website. It was also posted in the Town Newsletter.

Looking for a candidate who is very technically savvy on computers, has excellent writing skills, a good researcher for grant writing, and the ability to work through the DES permitting process. Marsh restoration knowledge would be a plus, as well as the ability to attend all site walks.

Dog Waste at Goss Farm, Town Forest, Brown Farm

Dog walkers are leaving waste at the Farm and when community gardeners face off with them are refusing to pick it up. A sign is suggested for Goss Farm as well as Town Forest and Brown Lane. There is already a box for the dog bags. There are also issues at Cedar Run with multiple poops with a member of the RCC constantly picking up and knows the dog owner. A "friendly" letter will be sent to the neighborhood.

Metal Detecting at Goss Farm

For a variety of reasons; agricultural soils, and part of the property being leased, it is not available for that activity. Also, there are pollinator habitat projects going on at the farm. It's felt that metal detecting is not appropriate and there should be some signage stating that. Member Garvan pointed out there's a liability issue if people dig and don't fill the holes properly.

Chair McFarland pointed out there's also an easement holder on the entire property. Chair McFarland commented the Carriage House is using the farm and there is thought of expanding the hoop houses. Second graders come to the farm for blueberries. It seems there could be another property for metal detecting, but not this one. She pointed out the property is only nine acres.

Member Garvan noted the property borders wetlands and there are buffer considerations and pointed out that metal detecting and digging is prohibited on state owned land in New Hampshire.

The Commission agreed that metal detecting should not be allowed at Goss Farm.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION (1) per RSA 91-A:3, II (d) Acquisition (2) per RSA 91-A:3, II (e)
Legal

At 8:50 p.m. The Commission came out of non-public session at 9:12 p.m.