



City of Keene, New Hampshire

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

City Hall

Monday, March 16, 2020

4:30 PM

2nd Floor Conference Room

Commission Members

Alexander Von Plinsky, IV, Chair
Eloise Clark, Vice Chair
Kenneth Bergman
Brian Reilly
Art Walker

Andrew Madison
Thomas P. Haynes, Alternate
Steven Bill, Alternate
Councilor Robert Williams

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes – February 18, 2020
3. Informational
 - a. Subcommittee reports
 - Outreach Subcommittee
 - ARM Fund Subcommittee
 - NHDOT Floodplain compensation
4. Discussion Items
 - a. Airport Road habitat
 - b. Bee City USA
5. New or Other Business
6. Adjournment – Next meeting date Monday, March 16, 2020

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City of Keene
New Hampshire

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 18, 2020

4:30 PM

**2nd Floor Conference Room,
City Hall**

Members Present:

Alexander Von Plinsky IV, Chair
(Arrived at 5:08 PM)
Eloise Clark, Vice Chair
Arthur Walker
Brian Reilly
Thomas Haynes, Alternate

Staff Present:

Rhett Lamb, Community Development
Director/Assistant City Manager

Members Not Present:

Kenneth Bergman
Andrew Madison
Steven Bill, Alternate

Guest:

Mayor George S. Hansel

1) Call to Order

Vice Chair Clark called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM., Mr. Haynes acted as a voting member. Councilor Bobby Williams was present but would not be an official member until February 20.

2) Approval of Meeting Minutes – January 21, 2020

- Page 4, §5.A. – change “Old Homestead Highway,” to “Old Gilsum Road.”
- Page 3, in the third line of the last paragraph – change “display much of the force,” to “displace much of the force.”
- Page 6, in the second paragraph – change “problematic for logs in the wetland,” to “problematic for timber mats in the wetland.”

Mr. Haynes moved to approve the minutes of January 21, 2020, which Mr. Reilly seconded and the Commission carried unanimously.

3) Mayor Hansel: Discuss the Idea of the Conservation Commission Absorbing the Duties of the Agricultural Commission

Mayor Hansel was at the meeting to begin a conversation as to whether the Commission should absorb the duties of the Agricultural Commission, which has struggled to achieve quorum in recent years. Because the charges of both Commissions overlap in some areas – particularly surveying and inventorying agricultural and conservation lands – the Mayor is considering modifying the Conservation Commission’s charge to include the Agricultural Commission’s duties. The Mayor shared the Agricultural Commission’s charge and duties:

- § 2-1105 – Membership. The Agricultural Commission shall consist of seven members. Each Agricultural Commission member shall be a resident of the City. One Commission member shall be a member of the Keene City Council and one Commission member may be a member of the planning board. No more than two alternate members may be appointed. In determining each member’s qualifications, the mayor shall take into consideration the appointee’s demonstrated interest and ability to understand, appreciate, and promote the purpose of the Agricultural Commission. Members of the Agricultural Commission also may

- 37 serve on other City Boards and Commissions, including but not limited to the Conservation
38 Commission.
- 39 ■ § 2-1108 – Powers, duties, and guidelines. In accordance with the provisions of RSA 674:44-
40 e, the following powers, duties, and guidelines are hereby established for the conduct of the
41 board. The Agricultural Commission shall have advisory and review authority, specifically as
42 follows:
- 43 1. Survey and inventory all agricultural resources.
 - 44 2. Conduct activities to recognize, promote, enhance, and encourage agriculture,
45 agricultural resources, and agricultural-based economic opportunities.
 - 46 3. Assist the planning board, as requested, in the development and review of those sections
47 of the comprehensive master plan, which address agricultural resources.
 - 48 4. Advise, upon request, City Boards and Commissions and other agencies in their review
49 of requests on matters affecting or potentially affecting agricultural resources.
 - 50 5. Coordinate activities with appropriate service organizations and nonprofit groups.
 - 51 6. Publicize and report its activities.
 - 52 7. Hire consultants and contractors as needed.
 - 53 8. Receive gifts of money and property, both real and personal, in the name of the City of
54 Keene, subject to the approval of the City Council, such gifts to be managed and
55 controlled by the Agricultural Commission for its proper purposes.
 - 56 9. Hold meetings and hearings necessary to carry out its duties.

57
58 The Mayor was open to discussion and did not need a definite decision at this meeting. Vice
59 Chair Clark asked if the Conservation Commission’s membership limit would increase with such
60 a change. The Mayor said that the Commission’s size is limited by NH statute, but he is in
61 conversation with the City Clerk to determine if the Commission could have more alternate
62 members than permitted currently. Mr. Haynes suggested that a Conservation Commission
63 subcommittee could be formed to focus on the absorbed agricultural duties.

64
65 Mr. Reilly stated that this Commission often reacts to proposals that it must comment on by law
66 (e.g., Wetlands Permits for the NH Department of Environmental Resources) and it did not seem
67 the Agricultural Commission had similar duties. Mayor Hansel agreed that the Agricultural
68 Commission serves currently in an advisory role for agricultural matters that come before
69 Council. He asked the Conservation Commission to consider whether they can provide that
70 guidance to Council when needed.

71
72 Mr. Haynes asked if the Agricultural Commission has a budget that would transfer as well. The
73 Mayor was unsure but if there was a budget, he imagined it would be nominal. He said that the
74 money the Conservation Commission can use from the Land Use Change Tax Fund is not only
75 intended for conservation, but also for agricultural purposes.

76
77 Mr. Reilly asked if there are current Agricultural Commission members that would want to serve
78 as Conservation Commission alternates. Mayor Hansel said he had not had that conversation yet
79 and his next step was to gauge that interest.

80
81 Mr. Walker asked the two Commissions would merge. The Mayor said that the Conservation
82 Commission would broaden its charge by absorbing a narrower set of the current Agricultural
83 Commission duties. Mr. Walker asked if the Conservation Commission would still meet
84 statutory requirements with this change and the Mayor replied in the affirmative.

85

86 The Mayor asked members to reflect on this potential change before the next meeting and then to
87 provide him a recommendation. Mr. Walker added that it would be opportune to invite any
88 current Agricultural Commission members who are interested in serving to the next meeting. The
89 Mayor and Mr. Lamb agreed that Charles Daloz and Mark Florenz have been active and would
90 likely want to continue serving; Mr. Lamb will invite them to the next meeting. Vice Chair Clark
91 added that it would be ideal if more Conservation Commission members were present at the next
92 meeting to discuss as well. Members can send questions to Mr. Lamb via email before the next
93 meeting.

94

95 **4) Informational**

96 **a. Subcommittee Reports**

97 **i. Outreach Subcommittee**

98 Mr. Haynes reported that Vice Chair Clark led a successful Tracks & Trees walk at Goose Pond
99 at the beginning of February with a mixed group of 12 participants. He said it was a great kickoff
100 to what the Subcommittee hopes will become a Goose Pond through the season's event series.
101 He has begun conversations with Jeff Littleton for a spring event, though no date is set.

102

103 The Subcommittee has begun planning a Tap to Toilet event, which will begin with a
104 presentation from Jim Rousmaniere focused on Keene's water system. The Historical Society
105 will sponsor and host the presentation so there is no need to rent a facility. No date is yet
106 confirmed, though Mr. Rousmaniere is available on Wednesday nights and the Historical Society
107 is available on Wednesdays April 15 and 22. Vice Chair Clark noted that April 22 might be the
108 week of school vacation and Mr. Reilly added that April 22 is also Earth Day. Mr. Haynes
109 imagined that more children would attend the subsequent water facility tours than Mr.
110 Rousmaniere's presentation. Once the presentation date is confirmed, the Subcommittee will
111 work with the City's Industrial Pretreatment Coordinator, Eric Swope, to schedule the tours of
112 the Water Treatment Facility and Wastewater Treatment Facility. Mr. Swope would lead one
113 tour, and he provided possible staff names for the other tour. These tours would be scheduled on
114 Saturdays.

115

116 Vice Chair Clark reported that Keene will be represented at the statewide Fourth Grade Water
117 Science Fair and she has plans in line for it.

118

119 **ii. ARM Fund Subcommittee**

120 No one from the Subcommittee was at the meeting but Vice Chair Clark reported that she was in
121 contact with Barbara Scully, who reported that approximately \$3.3 million were available in the
122 ARM Fund this year, though it was unknown how much would be available for Keene's
123 watershed; the funds are distributed statewide. Vice Clark recalled that the ARM Fund
124 Subcommittee, including former member Denise Burchsted, was working to identify shovel-
125 ready projects that ARM Funds could be applied to, but the status of that work was unclear. Mr.
126 Haynes asked when applications are due and Vice Chair Clark believed May 29.

127

128 **b. Concord Hill Easement Letter**

129 At the January meeting, the Commission agreed to send a letter, which was in the agenda packet.

130

131 **c. ARLAC 2019 Annual Report**

132 Vice Chair Clark referenced the report from the Ashuelot River Local Advisory Committee
133 (ARLAC) included in the meeting packet. She said that the conscientious Committee places
134 great scrutiny on all matters that come before them. The Committee is comprised of two

135 representatives from Keene and ideally one representative from each member town at minimum,
136 which is not always possible. Mr. Walker asked if ARLAC's review of permits and projects is a
137 statutory role. Vice Chair Clark replied in the affirmative, stating that ARLAC was appointed by
138 NH Department of Environmental Services (DES) per state statute and established in the early
139 1990s and the Committee is always welcoming interested members. There are two state local
140 advisory committee's – one for shore lands and one for river protection, the latter of which is
141 ARLAC's role. Mr. Walker referenced the report, which mentioned that ARLAC is responsible
142 for ¼ mile from the river. He asked if that ¼ mile is from the center of the river or starting from
143 the bank on each side. Vice Chair Clark was unsure and thought it might be both sides of the
144 river. Mr. Lamb thought it was likely beginning from the water surface and extending out the ¼
145 mile.

146
147 Vice Chair Clark recalled that Eversource spoke to this Commission in January about utility pole
148 replacements. ARLAC was only able to comment on two poles near RT-12 that are within that ¼
149 mile corridor and Eversource spoke with them about vegetation clearing through a lot of
150 wetlands to access those poles. Mr. Lamb recalled that this Commission reviewed that
151 Eversource work for a few access roads changing locations and requiring new road surfaces. He
152 thought the Commission commented without a formal recommendation.

153

154 5) Discussion Items

155 a. **Old Gilsum Road Land**

156 Mr. Lamb reported that the Commission's recommendation and a memo from Andy Bohannon,
157 the Director of Parks, Recreation & Facilities went to the Finance, Organization & Planning
158 Committee, which recommended that the City Manager be authorized to negotiate the purchase.
159 Staff anticipated a positive Council vote to purchase the six-acre parcel at their February 20
160 meeting.

161

162 Mr. Lamb cited an email from Mr. Bill asking if the Commission should visit and tour this
163 parcel. Mr. Lamb thought that Mr. Bill might have missed some details in his absence. Mr. Lamb
164 did not think it necessary to visit primarily because the general state of the parcel should be
165 comparable to the other City inholdings surrounding it. Additionally, it would be a one-mile
166 walk off-trail in the winter. Mr. Walker agreed, noting that the Commission did not walk the land
167 on Beech Hill before recommending purchase. Mr. Lamb thought it was most important for
168 Council to receive the Commission's recommendation. Ms. Clark recalled that Mr. Bill offered
169 to walk the property himself, but Mr. Lamb said it might be difficult to discern from other
170 surrounding woodlots. Mr. Reilly asked if proceeding with purchase would require a boundary
171 survey. Mr. Lamb said it depends on the state of existing deeds and the surrounding area. It
172 might not be necessary because the City owns the surrounding lots. The City would conduct a
173 phase one environmental study on the parcel, which is a paper exercise looking at prior use files
174 for the property. If an activity were identified that might have been a contamination source, then
175 further ground studies would be called for. Mr. Lamb did not think ground studies would be
176 needed in this instance because there had not been use of this parcel to his knowledge beyond
177 forestry and farming activities decades ago.

178

179 b. **NHDOT Floodplain Compensation**

180 Mr. Lamb referred to the nice layout that NH Department of Transportation (DOT) sent so that
181 the Commission could be familiar with project advancement. The summary included a well-done
182 explanation of the late 1990s state highway bypass project when the City successfully negotiated
183 that upon project completion, DOT would comply with the City's Floodplain Protection

184 Ordinance and supply compensatory storage for fill. To do so, DOT must dig holes of equal size
185 and volume elsewhere in the floodplain, and in this instance, the volumes are high. Staff has
186 been revisiting the original construction drawings to determine the amount of fill that occurred
187 and therefore where it could be compensated, which is challenging without competing with other
188 important natural resources. Mr. Lamb said the City might identify potential impacts to water
189 resources (e.g., shore lands) that are pivotal in deciding if DOT should move forward with the
190 compensation.

191
192 Mr. Walker questioned where compensation would be possible along the confines of West
193 Street. Mr. Lamb agreed that West Street is confined and therefore the only potential location is
194 at the T intersection of RTs-9/12/101, where there are significant wetlands.

195
196 Ms. Clark said that Barbara Scully spoke with The Public Works Director, Kürt Blomquist,
197 about potential compensation in the Beaver Brook watershed but Mr. Blomquist thought it was
198 only possible in the Ash Swamp Brook or Ashuelot River watersheds. Mr. Lamb explained that
199 the compensation is required to be within a certain distance and elevation of the fill itself to
200 ensure there is sufficient storage within that same reach of the dominant river, which in this case
201 is the Ashuelot. Staff is trying to be as flexible as possible in finding space for compensation and
202 Mr. Lamb stated that he was open to the idea of using the Beaver Brook watershed for some
203 compensation to help the City with frequent flooding on the east side.

204
205 Mr. Reilly asked if compensation is only possible on City-owned land. Mr. Lamb said no, they
206 are looking all over the City. Vice Chair, Clark added that they are looking in Swanzy as well,
207 specifically the compensatory area created just off the rail trail near the sand pits. Mr. Lamb
208 recalled that the Floodplain Protection Ordinance was revised to allow that compensatory fill in
209 what is now the cornfield at the corner of RT-101 and Winchester Street.

210
211 Councilor Williams questioned if compensation was possible along Beaver Brook in the corridor
212 of renovations to the Patricia T. Russell Park (former Carpenter Field), where there are
213 significant flooding problems. He recalled talks of improving flood mitigation efforts as a part of
214 that project. Mr. Lamb agreed that is a good idea to consider, though he was unsure if the
215 elevations that far up Beaver Brook would be sufficient for this particular compensation. Vice
216 Chair Clark said that her recommendation is the area of cornfields along RT-101. She anticipated
217 five acres available there and Mr. Lamb agreed. The Chairman asked who owns those cornfields
218 and Mr. Lamb replied the estate of Emile Ledger. He continued saying that finding a location for
219 compensation is a balancing act so as not to also disturb wetlands in the process.

220
221 Mr. Haynes asked if DOT would get back to the City with ideas for compensation. Mr. Lamb
222 said that is why DOT is seeking advice of local experts to scout locations. A technical committee
223 has been established to provide this advice. Mr. Lamb is on the committee and he would ideally
224 like a member of the Conservation Commission to serve in that advisory role as well, if
225 available. If a member of the Commission cannot participate, Mr. Lamb will continue providing
226 monthly updates. Mr. Haynes and Vice Chair Clark suggested that Mr. Madison, who recently
227 returned to the Commission, is a hydrologist and could possibly contribute to this effort.

228
229 Mr. Reilly asked what the compensatory storage would look like when complete. Mr. Lamb said
230 they are sort of like bathtubs. He recalled a similar project at the Woodland Cemetery, where
231 approximately one acre of soil was removed to a level just before intersecting with groundwater
232 and therefore restoring the wetland. Mounds were constructed to alter elevations to mimic the

233 wetlands, which the City hopes DOT would do in this instance as well, removing soil in the most
234 effective way to create new volume and better natural resource habitat. Mr. Reilly asked if
235 wetland vegetation would be sown at the bottom of the compensatory areas and Mr. Lamb said
236 that was yet to be determined.

237

238 **c. Airport Road Habitat**

239 Mr. Haynes reported that due to timing complications, he was unable to speak before the
240 Finance, Organization & Personnel Committee about the airport fence project during their
241 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) review. Still, Councilor Steve Hooper suggested that the
242 Commission should submit a statement on the project to Council, which Mr. Lamb agreed to
243 enter into the Council record for CIP review. Mr. Lamb is also sharing the statement with David
244 Hickling, the new Airport Manager.

245

246 Mr. Reilly recalled questions about when this airport fence project was scheduled in the CIP. Mr.
247 Lamb confirmed that it is funded for FY25, making funds available in July 2024, which is likely
248 with the design phase would begin. Mr. Lamb added that the fence project is high on the Airport
249 Manager's priority list. The Airport Manager indicated that he would seek Commission input,
250 especially in scouting other funding sources for habitat viewing structures to minimize recreation
251 impacts.

252

253 **6) New or Other Business**

254 Mr. Haynes said that the ARM Fund discussion should continue for the Chairman. The Chairman
255 said the ARM Fund Subcommittee had not met due to scheduling. Still, he said it occurred to
256 him to talk with local organizations like the Harris Center and Monadnock Conservancy because
257 the ARM Fund grant process opens May 1. As opposed to the Subcommittee taking lead on a
258 particular project, he thought there might be opportunities to collaborate with one of these
259 organizations on an ARM Fund project for this grant round. He said this could be a good way to
260 pool resources and accomplish something without all the work falling to this Commission. The
261 Chairman will contact the Conservancy to identify opportunities for partnerships. Mr. Lamb saw
262 no problems with that outreach from staff's standpoint.

263

264 Vice Chair Clark recalled that former Commission member Denise Burchsted was working with
265 the Public Work Director, Kürt Blomquist, and City Engineer, Don Lussier, to identify shovel-
266 ready projects for possible ARM Funds. Mr. Lamb offered to speak with the Public Works
267 Director. He recalled discussion about a few possible City projects with wetland impacts that
268 could be eligible for ARM Funds, but no project was exclusively dedicated to wetland
269 restoration. Staff was working with Peter Walker (head of the DOT advisory committee), who is
270 representing Liberty Utilities, which is going to build a Compressed Natural Gas plant at the end
271 of Production Avenue. The project means they must re-permit with many wetland impacts that
272 will also require mitigation. Peter Walker asked the City if there were mitigation projects
273 possible that he could ask Liberty Utilities to fund as a part of their mitigation package. They
274 looked at the second phase of the Woodland Cemetery project to redirect the small stream that
275 crosses under North Lincoln Street into the cemetery and then into a large, adjacent City-owned
276 wetland area. Mr. Lamb said that would have been the next shovel-ready project possible for
277 ARM Funds but DES denied the site. Mr. Lamb agreed it would be a good time to speak with the
278 City Engineer and Public Works Director again.

279

280 Mr. Walker asked why DES denied that second phase of Woodland Cemetery project. Mr. Lamb
281 thought they did not see great enough benefit for the work that would be involved. The work

282 would redirect a small feeder stream to the system running at the end of Beaver Brook and into a
283 wetland and upland area to dechannelize and spread it out just south of the cemetery. Mr. Lamb
284 is willing to return to that project for ARM Funds but imagines there would be a lot to sell on its
285 value.

286

287 Mr. Haynes agreed with Councilor Williams about ideas for Russell Park. Mr. Lamb said that
288 project is going into design phase right now, and it would not be a good time for a letter of
289 interest yet for several months. Mr. Haynes asked if that could be a future ARM Fund project.
290 Mr. Lamb would follow-up with the Director of Parks, Recreation, & Facilities to keep track of
291 the Russell Park progress. Councilor Williams reported that he is on the Russell Park advisory
292 committee, which just met for the first time and would continue to monthly through completion
293 of the \$1.275 million project involving the fields and playground. He thought that if funds could
294 be found for Beaver Brook habitat improvements that there would be opportunities at the park,
295 especially where kids could be involved with water activities.

296

297 Vice Chair Clark recalled a parcel on Church Street where a house burned down. She said the lot
298 is vacant now and though it is privately owned, it could be a great incorporation to Russell Park.
299 Councilor Williams agreed that the advisory committee is aware of that parcel, which is
300 challenging to develop in the middle of the floodplain; it could be a parking area for access to the
301 field, among other possible uses. Mr. Lamb said there is plenty of time for this Commission to
302 develop ideas for Russell Park.

303

304 Vice Chair Clark said that ARM Fund pre-proposals are due May 29. She noted another eight-
305 acre City-owned parcel abutting North Lincoln Street near Woodland Cemetery. Mr. Lamb said
306 that is where a channel was to be diverted from the cemetery in the second phase of that project.
307 Vice Chair Clark said the back of that property has lovely alder swamps and the front of the
308 property contains a lot of invasive species that have grown through fill there, and so she said a
309 lot of that fill could be dug out. Mr. Lamb thought it was a good idea for the ARM Fund
310 Subcommittee to begin looking at ideas toward an application. Vice Chair Clark added that
311 regardless of receiving funding, this is a good practice for the Commission. Chair Von Plinsky
312 will try to assemble the Subcommittee.

313

314 Mr. Lamb noted that John Therriault was present, who recently presented before the Municipal
315 Services, Facilities & Infrastructure Committee encouraging Council to make Keene a “Bee
316 City.” Mr. Therriault explained that Bee City USA is funded through the Xerces Society for
317 Invertebrate Conservation and is intended to enhance habitat for all pollinators, not just bees. He
318 said the process is simple for the City: assign a City staff liaison to the program, establish a
319 standing Committee to spearhead pollinator efforts, place a sign in the City identifying
320 participation, review City policies and procedures to be pollinator friendly, and complete an
321 annual report. For example, Mr. Therriault said that the invasive Japanese knotweed is pervasive
322 in the Beaver Brook watershed abutting Russell Park and those plants could be replaced with
323 native species to support native pollinators. Mr. Lamb said this matter would be on the
324 Commission’s March agenda as a referral from City Council for advice and Mr. Therriault would
325 return for that discussion. Mr. Haynes noted that this relates to the Commission’s potential
326 absorption of the Agricultural Commission’s duties and Mr. Lamb agreed. Mr. Therriault is
327 interested in being an alternate Commission member to help in this advisory role. Vice Chair
328 Clark suggested that Mr. Therriault communicate with the Cheshire County Conservation
329 District, which has pollinator efforts.

330

331 Mr. Haynes said that Commission membership needed to be updated on the City website and that
332 the Greater Goose Pond Forest Stewardship Plan is not yet available on the website. He added
333 that the Commission's description still lists "development of natural resources," and he thought
334 the Commission had voted to remove the word "development." Mr. Lamb agreed that the
335 webpage still reflected the old language and he would work to revise it. Mr. Haynes added that
336 the Commission webpage could be an ideal location to post outreach activities as well as photos
337 and links to events. If members send information to post, he would forward it to the proper staff
338 for publishing on the website.

339

340 Vice Chair Clark said there would be a Clean Water Café event on March 24 at the Old County
341 Courthouse from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM. The event would include representatives from the CT
342 River Conservancy, Cheshire County Conservation District, and ARLAC. There will be a brief
343 film on the Source to Sea event from the CT Conservancy. The event provides networking
344 opportunities for those interested in clean water.

345

346 **7) Adjournment – Next Meeting Date is Monday, March 16, 2020**

347 Next year, Chair Von Plinsky hoped the January and February meetings could be changed to the
348 second Monday of the month instead of the third Tuesday so that it is easier for him to attend.

349 The meeting adjourned at 5:34 PM.

350

351 Respectfully submitted by,
352 Katryna Kibler, Minute Taker
353 February 25, 2020

354

355 Reviewed by Rhett Lamb, Community Development Director/ACM



City of Keene, N.H.
Transmittal Form

February 26, 2020

TO: Mayor and Keene City Council
FROM: Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee
ITEM: D.1.
SUBJECT: Encouraging the City to Become a “Bee City”

COUNCIL ACTION:

In City Council March 5, 2020.

Voted unanimously to carry out the intent of the report.

RECOMMENDATION:

With a vote of 5-0, the Municipal Services, Facilities & Infrastructure Committee recommended that the request that the City of Keene become a “Bee City” be referred to the Conservation Commission.

BACKGROUND:

The City Manager, Elizabeth Dragon, recalled this matter being presented at the last meeting, when staff was still unsure as to the best place in the City structure to refer the request. Because the Agricultural Commission is inactive, the Mayor spoke with the Conservation Commission to gauge their interest, and to the City Manager’s understanding, the Commission was interested. She recommended referring this matter to the Conservation Commission.

Chair Manwaring welcomed the petitioner, John Therriault (of 76 Bradford Road), who recalled that Bee City USA is a way for Keene to demonstrate commitment to policies and practices that support pollinators (e.g., bees, bats, hummingbirds, and some lizards) and their habitat. He was at the previous Conservation Commission meeting, where the idea was discussed briefly. He would attend the next Conservation Commission meeting as well.

Councilor Filiault made the following motion, which Vice Chair Giacomo seconded.

With a vote of 5-0, the Municipal Services, Facilities & Infrastructure Committee recommended that the request that the City of Keene become a “Bee City” be referred to the Conservation Commission.