

Jaffrey Conservation Commission
Minutes of the Special Meeting
July 26, 2022

Present: Carolyn Garretson (Chair), Tom Ahlborn-Hsu (via phone), Bill Graf, Charlie Koch, David Peragallo, Serra Gauthier, Kevin Chamberlain (Select Board Rep.)

Absent: Aaron Abitz, Pam Armstrong, Kathy Batchelder, Jim Bearce, Michael George, Fran McBride

Special meeting convened at 6:04 PM, having been duly posted. The meeting took place at the Jaffrey Town Offices.

The meeting was called to order by Carolyn Garretson, Chair. Tom Ahlborn-Hsu was connected to the meeting by phone.

The sole order of business was to discuss northeast Wilderness Trust as an acceptable partner for the ARM grant, in accordance with the Motion of May 18, 2022: *To continue discussion until next meeting, or until such time as the pre-proposal is accepted whether the full proposal should be submitted and with which partner.*

CG read an email from EW stating the pros and cons of the NEWT proposal, and an email from JB raising some concerns.

CK began the discussion by stating his opposition to partnering with NEWT because he felt the likelihood of cutting timber and managing forest in Carey Park was extremely remote. Therefore we should not restrict a future Conservation Commission if it wasn't necessary. NEWT wasn't the right fit for our purposes.

SG expressed concern for the long-term preservation of the land because of the changing dynamics of the town.

There was discussion that we should have a similar template for the easements on all town owned lands, but this was deemed impractical as the attributes of each parcel were different.

A lengthy discussion ensued discussing the pros and cons of partnering with NEWT and whether or not there were alternatives we had not considered, such as the town holding the easement. Finally, T A-H made a motion to submit the proposal for final approval to ARM with Northeastern Wilderness as partner, seconded by DP.

Each member was polled on their vote, and the motion passed on a vote of 6 to 1.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM.