

**FINAL**

**CLASS VI ROADS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA  
Remote via Microsoft Teams  
LebanonNH.gov/Live  
Thursday, September 3rd, 2020  
6:30 PM**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Stephen Wood, Erling Heistad, Joan Monroe, Barbara Hirai, Marc Coleman, Colin Smith

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**STAFF PRESENT:** Mark Goodwin (GIS Coordinator)

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**1. CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Stephen Wood called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM

- Mr. Mark Goodwin reviewed the meeting procedures for remote meetings and NH RSA 91-A “Right to Know” requirements. A Roll Call of Commission Members who participated remotely are listed above.

**2. STUDY ITEMS: BARDEN HILL ROAD REVIEW AND DISCUSS**

**A. Smith Correspondence, Casale Correspondence, February 24, 2020 Draft Map SE Lebanon, August 20, 2020 Background Information Agenda Packet.**

Mr. Goodwin went over 2 new map resources that have been discovered, 2 new letters that have been received from members of the public and a letter from the Patch Family. The first map that he shared was found in CC Benton’s book, the map has the date of 1964. The second map was done by the City Historian, Robert Leavitt, and has the date 2000 on the map. That map was created to show all the historic roads of the City of Lebanon.

Several letters were also sent in by the public, including a letter from Barbara Patch and family which included a City of Lebanon Public Works map of the Class VI Road, Barden Hill. Mr. Goodwin summarized the Patch Family’s letter that was dated September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020. The Patches also requested an explanation from the City explaining the standards or protocols of Committee members, specifically regarding their discussion on this topic outside of meetings.

Chair Wood explained that any Board, Select Board, Council, or Committee member can speak to one another. It only becomes illegal if enough members get together that makes the gathering a quorum, then they cannot speak about things that they are dealing with in the Committee they are on.

Ms. Monroe explained that Planning Board members follow stricter rules and are not supposed to talk between meetings. The difference is the Class VI Roads Committee is an advisory committee and the Planning Board create laws for the City. She also told the Committee that she and Barbara Hirai walked Barden Hill Road and ran into a neighbor whom they asked questions of such as where things were on the Road and directions.

Mr. Coleman wanted to know how many members of the Class VI Roads Committee made a quorum and the answer was four (4).

Ms. Barbara Patch spoke and said that she stands by what was written in the letter and that it contains everything the family wanted to say to the Committee.

Ms. Jan Lahaye shared photos of a walk that she and 4 other people took on Monday from Meriden Road to the Methodist Hill Road. A map with numbers on it was screen shared with corresponding photographs of the Road. She explained that the people in the group believed that the roadway was obvious to them and easy to follow.

Chair Wood read a letter from Mr. Robert Pushee which said that he has lived at 405 Meriden Road for 50 years. He always thought that Barden Hill Road was a public right of way. He used to take his kids up the Road partridge hunting and that at one time there was a sign pointing toward Burger King up there.

Chair Wood also read a letter from Mr. Peter Johnson, co-owner of K&J Associates, who said he has always considered Barden Hill Road a public right of way. He said that the snowmobile club always asked permission, but that in his view they were just being civil and did not have to and that Ira Herrin, who was with the snowmobile club, only maintained the Road that was already there.

Mr. Fran Casale who has lived at Churchill Way for the last 16 years said he has always gotten permission to walk on people's land but that he has never asked for permission to walk on Barden Hill Road because he always thought it was a public road. He took snowmobiles up Barden Hill Road to the gas station at Exit 16 at the end of the road. He was one of the people who took the walk with Jan Lahaye and he also felt that it was a pretty easy walk to take.

Mr. Laf Lahaye said he lives on Route 120 Meriden Road and he can see the Class VI Road from his property, He added that the Burger King sign that was mentioned previously pointed the way to the old Burger King that was at Exit 16 where the Dunkin Donuts is now.

Mr. Bob Townsend who lives on Storrs Hill used to ride snowmobiles and horses on Barden Hill Road in the 1960s. He was also one of the people who went on the walk with Jan Lahaye and still believes it is a Class VI Road. He also spoke with Mark Gardener with the snowmobile club and Mr. Gardener told him that Ira Herrin got permission in the 1980s from the City of Lebanon to clean up the Road and was given used, galvanized, steel culverts to put in up there as needed.

Mr. Arthur Patch contends that past the foundation there was a snowmobile trail but there was not any stone walls or markings along the way showing a Road was ever there. He said as you get closer to Exit 16 that was the Old King's Highway that was discontinued that people were walking on.

Ms. Barbara Patch said that the last portion of the Road people walk on is the discontinued Churchill Way near Exit 16. She said that is now the trail the snowmobile club used, and that Robbie Williams took the bulldozer and smoothed it out for the winter. That was why the path was so easy to walk on.

Mr. Joshua Patch said anyone who walks up Barden Hill Road all the way through to Exit 16 are walking on a snowmobile trail that runs along the discontinued Churchill Way Road. The people are no longer walking on a public right of way. He said that just because people may think they are walking on a public right of way does not make it so.

Ms. Barbara Hirai asked why and when Churchill Way was discontinued? Mr. Ron Bailey, Lebanon Park Ranger, lives in Plainfield, answered that it was discontinued in 1836.

Ms. Monroe asked Mr. Bailey if he saw any evidence of a Class VI Road? He said he could find the treadway of the remains of the Road. The Class VI Road runs South of the new logging road that has been put in.

Ms. Hirai said she was looking at a 2018 Lidar map and it looked like there was a road and a stone wall to the North side of Barden Hill Road. Could that be where the road might have been? Mr. Joshua Patch replied that it was a pasture stone wall.

Mr. Heistad said that he and Kim walked the Road on Monday afternoon and did not have any difficulty finding the Roadway.

Chair Wood closed public comment. The meeting on Barden Hill Road will continue to the next meeting to be held in two weeks.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020

***Mr. Heistad MOVED to approve the August 20th, 2020 Minutes as presented in the September 3rd, 2020 agenda packet.***

***Seconded by Ms. Hirai.***

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Erling Heistad, Stephen Wood, Barbara Hirai, Joan Monroe, Marc Coleman, and Colin Smith all voting Yea.**

**None voted Nay.**

***\* The Vote on the MOTION was unanimously approved (6-0).***

**12. ADJOURNMENT:**

***A MOTION was made by Mr. Heistad to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 PM.***

***The MOTION was seconded by Ms. Monroe.***

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Colin Smith, Erling Heistad, Joan Monroe, Barbara Hirai, Stephen Wood, and Marc Coleman all voting Yea.**

**None voted Nay.**

***\* The Vote on the MOTION was approved (6-0).***

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Higgins  
Recording Secretary