



New Hampshire Turtle Rescue Board of Directors Meeting
Sunday, February 23, 2025
Official Minutes

1 **Opening:** The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Drew Stevens at NHTR
2 headquarters and virtually via Google Meet.

3
4 **Members Present:** Drew Stevens, Dallas Huggins, Chris Bogard (via Google Meet), Jennifer
5 Purrenhage (via Google Meet), David Steinberg (via Google Meet), Joshua Megyesy (via
6 Google Meet), Sarah Kern (via Google Meet), Wendy Booth (via Google Meet), Chris Carr
7 (via Google Meet), Karen Campbell (via Google Meet).

8
9 **Members Absent:** None.

10
11 **Others Present:** None.

12
13 **Approval of Minutes**

14
15 Stevens presented the draft meeting minutes from previous meetings for the Board to
16 review and approve.

17
18 *The draft minutes from the December 30, 2024 meetings were approved as written by*
19 *consensus.*

20
21 **New Business**

22
23 Sharon Martel Nomination to BOD

24
25 Josh sent Sharon's application out to the Board to review prior to the meeting.

26
27 *Sharon was approved by a unanimous vote.*

28
29 Computer purchase

30
31 *Computer purchase of up to \$1000 was approved by consensus. Drew will find a suitable*
32 *computer for NHTR use.*

33
34 Meeting Scheduling

35
36 *The next BOD meeting was scheduled for April 6, 2025 at 10:00 AM by consensus.*

37
38 **Member Updates**

39
40 President's Report



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41 Stevens discussed the annual report. All BOD felt they did a great job on this report. Copies
42 are available to be mailed or emailed to interested parties. Please let Drew know if you
43 need copies.

44

45 *Newsletter*

46 NHTR sent out the latest Turtle Tribune. Please sign up via email to get the newsletter and
47 share with all.

48

49 *Letter to Town of Fremont*

50 Stevens shared that the town is working towards correcting the mistake that was made
51 regarding turtle rescue in the state and issues with taking turtles to out of state rehabs.

52

53 *Bogard left the meeting at this point, and Megyesy joined the meeting shortly after.*

54

55 *SELT Visit*

56 Stevens shared that Lori Summers from Southeast Land Trust (SELT) visited NHTR to hear
57 more about us and discuss ideas for future partnerships with NHTR. She is the Coastal
58 Watershed Land Conservation Manager at SELT and also works with other land trusts
59 through the Great Bay Resource Protection Partnership.

60

61 *Education Events*

62 Stevens shared that we missed the deadline for NH Fish & Game's annual Discover Wild
63 NH Day. It was also discussed that this is not a prime event for NHTR due to craziness of
64 event and stress to turtle ambassadors. NHTR will also be at an NH Animal Rights League
65 "Turtle Brigade" event in Manchester the first weekend of March.

66

67 Treasurer's Report

68 None given. This is being worked on by Sharon along with Drew.

69

70 Fundraising Report

71 *Fuller Grant*

72 Stevens discussed the Fuller Grant, which has asked for a full application from NHTR –
73 good news so far. Drew, Karen, and Sharon are working on the full grant application.

74

75 *NH Gives*

76 This year the event will be June 10 & 11. Looking for volunteers to help with NH Gives
77 donors tool kit and drum up support. Stevens will send link to assist in considering helping
78 on this.

79



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80 Stevens also discussed future ideas of Gala style fundraiser but is too much work for our
81 current time frames. Revisit this idea in the future.

82

83 Executive Director's Report

84 *UNH Internship Career Fair*

85 Huggins reported on the fair from last Tuesday. It was very successful, and 6 applicants had
86 applied so far. Lots of engagement at event. Two interns are under review now to receive
87 offer letters.

88

89 *Temporary Employee*

90 A new part-time temporary employee has been working the remaining hours from the
91 approved payroll budget. He works on Fridays.

92

93 *Patient Updates*

94 Huggins gave updates regarding two snapping turtle patients who passed away. One from
95 complications due to egg lodged in bladder and the other from unknown circumstances
96 which are still being investigated.

97

98 *Pathogen Testing Partnership with UNH*

99 Huggins discussed a new partnership with the UNH Veterinary Diagnostics Lab to develop
100 pathogen and eDNA testing capabilities for wild, pet, and confiscated turtles. The goal is to
101 develop protocols for large-scale confiscations and repatriation of poached native turtles
102 to the wild. Megyesy has been coordinating the effort. Dr. Needle and his team came to visit
103 the NHTR facility in January and start making plans.

104

105 **Additions to the Agenda:**

106 Chris Carr and NHTR have been working with Matt Patterson on new cards to send to
107 donors. Matt has generously given NHTR permission to use an illustration of his for these
108 prints/cards.

109

110 There was discussion on t-shirt designs.

111

112 Sarah Kern mentioned that she is keen to start on education info geared towards kids.
113 Discussion followed about the need for a volunteer to start assisting with presentations.

114

115 **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

116

117 Minutes prepared by Wendy Booth and edited by Drew Stevens