



Gilmanton Conservation Commission

PO Box 550, Gilmanton NH 03237-0550

Patrick Hackley, Chairman
Stephen Hopkins, Vice Chairman
Richard de Seve, Member
Paula Gilman, Member
Susan Hale-de Seve, Member
Thomas Dombrowski, Member
Nikita Twaalfhoven, Member
Bre Daigneault, Com. Dev. Dir.

MINUTES DRAFT

Tuesday, December 12, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.
Academy Building, 503 Province Road, Gilmanton, NH

Call to Order: Members present included Sue Hale-deSeve, Dick de Seve, Thom Dombrowski, Paula Gilman, Chairman Patrick Hackley, Vice Chairman Stephen Hopkins, and Nikita Twaalfhoven, along with staff Bre Daigneault.
Members of the public included Graham Wilson, Cathy Parrot, and Jason Smith.

A. **Review of Minutes** — Member de Seve made the motion to accept the minutes of November 14, 2023 as written. Member Gilman seconded. **Motion passed 7-0**

B. **Correspondence/Announcements**

- Trails Sub-committee update- Member Dombrowski stated there were no new updates this month.
- Gilmanton Land Trust- Graham Wilson stated the Gilmanton Land Trust exists to promote conservation in Gilmanton. This is done through assistance and fund raising for conservation easements. The GLT would like to develop a sense of priorities with the GCC for projects and potential properties. Chair Hackley feels there is a lot of synergy together and looks forward to finding projects to benefit both groups for the same conservation purpose. Member Gilman is also a member on the GLT and there is currently a parcel of land the GCC has been approached to purchase. This may be a project the groups could work together on purchasing. Mr. Wilson felt the town could hold ownership and be supplemented by conservation easements. Member de Seve did not believe any town forests have conservation easements. The two groups could look to write a joint letter to potential land owners. Chair Hackley felt they could start by looking at properties that abut existing conserved lands and view sheds in the town. Members discussed easements and ownership rights. Member Hopkins felt it would make sense to take their cumulative knowledge of what these parcels might be, agree and create prioritized list of them, and work proactively together. They could develop a list of criteria between the two groups. Chair Hackley felt they could start by looking at habitat and conservation features first, then see if the land owners have any interest.

Action items:

- Maps- soil, habitat, conservation features
- Circulate land protection criteria
- Easements on town owned lands- needed or not needed?

C. **Conservation Easement Monitoring and Stewardship**



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D. Wetland/Shoreland/Biosolid/Intent-to-Cut/Forestry Notifications/Applications

E. Review of Invoices/Costs/Budget

- NHCI Sign Shop- A quote was reviewed with a few different fonts. Member Dombrowski felt having the prison systems create signs would be better than constructing wooden signs. The metal signs would not have to be repainted. This is for the small peninsula on Shellcamp. Member Dombrowski made the motion to order sign "A" at \$76. Member Gilman seconded. **Motion passed 7-0** It was clarified this would be paid from the conservation fund. Member Dombrowski would also like to receive a quote for Warren Family Conservation Area sign. Chair Hackley felt both signs could be ordered at the same time. The deed had not yet been signed on the Shellcamp property. Staff Daigneault stated the Selectmen had approved both land donations: the parcel on Meadow Pond Rd (Shellcamp) as well as the Allen parcel on Rte. 140. Both title searches have been completed and just the signing of the deeds are left. Member Gilman felt they could sign deeds now and hold celebration at a later date.

Action Items:

- Schedule deed signings
- NHCI
Two other invoices for signs were reviewed in the amounts of \$121 and \$164. These would be paid from the conservation fund.
- Forest Resource Consultants
This was for a consulting forester for vista clearing totaling \$2,273.55. This would be paid from the conservation fund.
- Laconia Daily Sun
Advertising for the request for sealed bids totaling \$510. This invoice was for November at \$102, the remainder to be paid in December. This would be paid from the operating budget.
- NHAC
For 2024 membership dues totaling \$250

F. Planning Board/Zoning Board Applications

There were no new applications for either board. The Planning Board would be finalizing proposed zoning ordinance amendments.

G. Complaints/Violations/Concerns

There was a brief update on the construction and erosion on Tamarack Trail.

H. New Business

- Cemetery Trustees- Ella Stroud Memorial Town Forest
Member Hackley read an email from John Dickey. The Cemetery Trustees are



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requesting to repair the entrance/drive into Buzzell Cemetery. The parking lot is part of the Ella Stroud Town Forest. Member de Seve stated he monitors the property each year and can attest to the condition of the entrance. Member Gilman made the motion to allow the Trustees to make the repairs. Member de Seve seconded. **Motion passed 7-0**

- Land Donation- Flintlock Cr, M/L 133-082

Member de Seve had met with the property owners at the lot. The property is unbuildable and very steep. It is surrounded by two other town owned properties. Chair Hackley stated they would need to complete a title search. Members did not feel a survey would be necessary.

Action item:

- Reach out for quote on the title search.

- Monetary Donation- Maher Charitable Foundation

A new donation in the amount of \$5,000. Member de Seve made the motion to recommend the Selectmen accept the donation. Member Gilman second. **Motion passed 7-0**

- Conservation Commission Bylaws

Members reviewed the proposed updates. Member Gilman made the motion to accept the bylaws as amended. Member de Seve seconded. **Motion passed 7-0**

I. Old Business

- New Member Handbook- Member de Seve motioned to approve as amended.

Member Dombrowski seconded. **Motion passed 7-0**

- Town Owned Properties- Staff Daigneault stated it does not look like these would be going on the ballot this year, unless the Selectmen decide otherwise.

- Frisky Hill pull-off- Chair Hackley hosted four contractors on Frisky Hill. Bids are due tomorrow (Dec. 13th) by 4:30. One contractor felt he would have trouble getting boulders, inquired of cement blocks. Member consensus was they would not accept cement blocks. A police safety detail would also be needed during construction.

J. Upcoming Dates

- Next Conservation Commission Meeting: January 9, 2024

Member Gilman made the motion to close the meeting. Member Dombrowski seconded.

Motion passed 7-0

Respectfully Submitted, Patrick Hackley, Chairman