



Gilmanton Conservation Commission

PO Box 550
Gilmanton NH 03237-0550

Approved

MINUTES

Tuesday, March 8, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.
Academy Building, 503 Province Road

Call to order

Chair Tracy Tarr called the meeting to order and noted that a quorum was present as all Members were present (Tracy Tarr, Patrick Hackley, Dick de Seve and Alternate Susan Hale-de Seve).

A. Review of January 12, 2016 Minutes

Commission reviewed the Minutes. Motion made by Mr. de Seve, seconded by Mr. Hackley and unanimously voted to approve the 1/12/2016 Minutes as presented and edited.

B. Conservation Easement Monitoring

1. Twigg Land Conservation Project

- Updates: Signs – Observation Platform – Management Plan Development
- Five Rivers Conservation Trust 2015 Conservation Easement Monitoring for Frisky Hill and Meeting House Road

General discussion arose. Mr. Hackley reported on his “walk” with the Town Forester Ron Klemarczyk approximately two weeks ago. Mature timber was noted on the Meeting House parcel, but not in abundance as expected, and the site was quite wet with areas of standing water. Mr. Klemarczyk made the suggestion to consider an old-growth component, oak and hemlock, and thin the diseased trees under extremely dry conditions in July, August or September. With regard to the pond, Mr. Klemarczyk noted that it is extremely rare to find a pond of this quality without camps. They noted that the trail needs some cleaning up and discussed placement of the kiosk sign, which should not be south facing and should be situated perpendicular to the sun to minimize degradation.

Mr. Hackley stated that he discussed with Mr. Klemarczyk the Commission’s requirement to create a Management Plan and he would be willing to prepare and take into consideration the old growth component. Mr. Hackley stated that they also reviewed the barn and it appears to have had new cement footings placed, perhaps twenty-five years ago, and that there were some barn implements inside. According to John Dickey, the broken windows still need to be replaced. The clearing maintenance of the trail might be an opportunity to educate others, perhaps a Boys Scout Troop, to become involved and perhaps put up plaques along the trail.

Members reviewed the Conservation Easement Monitoring for Frisky Hill and Meeting House Road submitted by Five Rivers Trust. Ms. Knee was instructed to file the original report in the “vault” and a copy in the Conservation files. With regard to re-blazing and reinforcing some of the markers, Mr. Hackley stated that he could accomplish that on a weekend sometime soon and would need to consult the maps for accuracy – for the brush line behind the pond, in particular.

Approved 4/12/2016 as edited and amended.

2. Beaver Woods – plank replacement options

Mr. Hackley reported that he and Mr. Klemarczyk did not have time to check the site on their walk a couple of weeks ago.

Ms. Tarr asked for a budget/cost estimate from Mr. Klemarczyk for developing a Management Plan for Twigg and for Beaver Woods.

3. Inventory and schedule – review of spreadsheet

Ms. Tarr stated that the Commission's next priority should be Betty Smithers Town Forest.

4. “Adopt a Trail” Program?

Ms. Tarr stated that she spoke with an expert on Rapid Bio Assessment for land quality based on moths, similar to existing stream assessments, and he is willing to come to NH and give a tutorial on how to use the method, sometime in the fall. It would be a good opportunity to learn about invertebrates we have on conservation properties and it might be a good opportunity to involve others in the community. The process involves setting up lamps at night and the images are fascinating.

A Spring Vernal Pool Walk was discussed as another option to pursue. Ms. Tarr will spearhead.

5. Cogswell Mountain Conservation Area – yearly report

Noted.

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

1. Intent to Cut

- M/L 409/091 Flynn Estate, Perkins Road
- M/L 412/029 Wayne Burgess, Route 106
- M/L 415/033 Charles Price, Shannon Road
- M/L 415/45 + 47.1 Richard Price, NH Route 140

The process was discussed in general terms. The Intent to Cut is actually a tax document and appreciation was expressed for the opportunity to review prior as it allows the Commission to do its due diligence. Mr. Hackley stated that the aeriels and lot maps that accompany the requests are helpful. Mr. de Seve stated that Google Earth has been updated for the Gilmanton area. Mr. Hackley inquired about the report of actual timber cut that is submitted to the State Forester and Ms. Knee stated that she is not aware and would follow up.

2. Standard Dredge and Fill

- M/L 420/115-001 Nathan Philbrook, Dow Road

Ms. Knee reported that the missing information that was requested by GCC has not yet been received and is now being requested by NH DES.

D. Review of Invoices/Costs/Budget

Commission asked Ms. Knee to check if the NH Association of Conservation Commissions dues have been paid. Mr. Hackley confirmed that he was reimbursed for the sign materials and Ms. Knee reported that it was taken out of the general Conservation fund and not the Twigg Fund, as apparently it was transferred to a Fund that requires a Trustee of the Trust Funds to authorize payment. Ms. Tarr stated that eventually the Twigg Fund balance would be transferred to a Conservation Fund and that it is important to track.

E. Planning Board / Zoning Board applications

1. PB #201-2016 Change of Use The Corner Store, M/L 137/37, 518 Province Rd
2. PB #401-2016 Site Plan Review CJ Bones, M/L 413/019, Rte 106
3. ZBA #2016-005 request to build foundation under existing structure in 75' lake setback, M/L 136/25, 92 Loon Pond Road

Ms. Knee provided an overview of each application. No concerns were expressed. With regard to the Town Official Review Form, it was noted that the comment regarding septic is just a comment and not a concern, as DES will handle the requirements regarding septic.

F. Complaints/Violations/Concerns

Mr. Hackley reported on a raised septic system on Sawyer Lake that has sand, no loam/seed/hay cover as required and expressed concern for sand runoff.

Campaign signs were placed on the upper and lower fields. Campaign signs should not be placed on Town owned land and most definitely should have been removed after the election.

G. New Business

1. Potential auction properties – review – 122/068 Hemlock Drive & 130/63 Cedar Drive

Not addressed.

H. Old Business

1. Review of land evaluation ranking criteria
2. DES after the fact permit – Michael Bolduc, Hemlock Drive, Map 122 Lot 51

Not addressed.

I. Correspondence/Announcements

- 2/16/16 Leah Hart, Conservation Easement Steward Forest Society request for 2015 monitoring report for Allen, J&U and Skantze / Ambelas properties
- 2015 Annual Report, Lakes Region Household Hazardous Waste Collection
- January 2016 NH-DES E-News – new wetland mitigation rules; new sludge management rules
- 2/12/16 The Loon Preservation Committee
- 1/22/16 Solid Earth Technologies, Inc., helical piles
- 2/14/16 Belknap Tree & Shrub Sale information
- March-April 2016 NHDES Environmental News report

Approved 4/12/2016 as edited and amended.

Noted

J. Upcoming Dates

1. Next Regular Conservation Commission Meeting, Tuesday, April 12, 2016, 7:00 pm

Motion made by Mr. de Seve, seconded by Mr. Hackley and unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting.
The 3/8/16 GCC meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Louise Knee

Attested by: _____

Tracy Tarr, GCC