



Gilmanton Conservation Commission

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Minutes of the Gilmanton Conservation Commission Site Walk and Meeting Held Saturday, March 27, 2010 at 10 AM at Hidden Valley Scout Camp

Present:

Conservation Commission: Nanci Mitchell (Chair), Dick de Seve, Tracy Tarr, Laurie Churchill, Joe Derrick

Hidden Valley Scout Camp: Craig Nowell (Head Ranger); Bryan Boyajian

Forester for Hidden Valley Scout Camp: Ron Klemarczyk

Other: Larry Churchill, Cailin Tarr

Absent: Sue Hale de Seve, Erin Hollingsworth, Lisa Robinson, Brenda Sens

Nanci appointed Joe to vote for Erin and Laurie to vote for the vacant position.

The purpose of the walk and meeting was to review the wetland impact of a proposed bridge replacement at the Griswold Scout Reservation (a.k.a Hidden Valley Scout Camp). We met at the parking area at Camp Bell where the staff from the camp graciously provided us with rides on “gators” to the site so that we avoided a 4 mile walk.

The original bridge was built in 1994 using hemlock headers and stringers which are obviously decomposing and has been re-decked more recently. The bridge is part of the State snowmobile trail system and provides access for forestry activities and fire fighting to a very large forested area. The Commission’s questions centered around whether the stream was perennial or intermittent and if the Minimum Impact Expedited Application was the correct form given that the stream exceeded the 10 ft. maximum width for that form (it is 11 ft. at that location). Ron Klemarczyk explained that the stream has always been dry in the summer at the bridge site except for in 2009. There was no question as to the necessity of the project.

Tracy moved and Dick seconded that the Minimum Impact Wetland Application for the replacement of the bridge be signed if a note is included explaining the water flow in the brook and how it is dry during most summers. The motion was approved unanimously.

Nanci explained that we need to act on five Permit-by-Notification (PBN) applications from the Gilmanton Fire Department for the installation, replacement or repair of dry hydrants.

Dick moved that we sign the PBN’s from the Fire Department for Henry on Hall’s Hill, Potter on Potter Road and Stearns on Meetinghouse Road. Motion seconded by Joe and approved unanimously.

Dick moved and Laurie seconded that we sign the PBN for Wood on Crystal Lake if the Fire Chief confirms that the project is not within 20 ft. of an abutter or if a signed waiver from the abutter is provided. Motion approved unanimously.

The last PBN was for the repair of a hydrant on Crystal Lake near the Whispering Pines Beach. There was confusion as to which of two lots the hydrant was located on and the Fire Chief is to clarify that concern. It was the consensus of the Commission not to act on this application until there was a resolution to the location of the hydrant.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Nanci Mitchell, Chair