



Gilmanton Conservation Commission

PO Box 550
Gilmanton NH 03237-0550

Minutes of the Meeting February 8, 2011

Attending Members: Tracy Tarr, Chair; Dick de Seve, Vice-chair; Erin Hollingsworth, Member; Nanci Mitchell, Member; Joe Derrick, Alternate Member; Sue Hale-de Seve, Alternate Member; Desiree Tumas, Administrator.

Attending Public: **(As Signed-in)** Fuzz Freese, Carolyn Baldwin, and Thomas A. Howe of the Gilmanton Land Trust.

Chair Tarr called the meeting to order @ 7:07 pm.

Alternate Member Hale-de Seve was seated in the absence of Member Hackley. Alternate Member Derrick was seated to create a 6-Member Board.

Following procedural discussion, Chair Tarr entertained a motion to enter non-public session.

A. Gilmanton Land Trust – Non-public session per RSA 91-A:3.II.d

(7:12 pm) Member Mitchell moved to enter Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3.(d) “Consideration of the acquisition, sale, or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community”.

Vice-chair de Seve seconded the motion as stated, the motion passed unanimously 6-0 Roll Call Vote.

The Commission Members and Members of the Gilmanton Land Trust discussed the acquisition possibilities of several parcels within the Town of Gilmanton.

(8:22 pm) Vice-chair de Seve moved to come Out of Non-Public Session; Member Hollingsworth seconded the motion as stated, the motion passed unanimously 6-0 Roll Call Vote.

During the Non-public session, Commission Members made the following motion and voted to seal the Non-public Minutes.

- ***“Vice-chair de Seve moved to seal the Non-Public Minutes of the Meeting, Member Mitchell seconded the motion as stated; the motion passed unanimously by 6-0 roll call vote”.***

B. January 11, 2011 – Minutes of the Regular Meeting

Member Mitchell moved to approve the January 11, 2011, Minutes of the Meeting as amended, Vice-chair de Seve seconded the motion as stated; the motion passed unanimously.

January 11, 2011 – Non-public Minutes of the Meeting

Member Mitchell moved to approve the January 11, 2011, Non-Public Minutes of the Meeting as submitted, Vice-chair de Seve seconded the motion as stated; the motion passed unanimously.

Vice-chair de Seve moved to seal the January 11, 2011, Non-public Minutes of the Meeting, Member Mitchell seconded the motion as stated; the motion passed unanimously.

C. Update on Land Stewardship

1. Beaver Woods Nature Reserve – Planning

Members of the Commission had planned to walk the property on February 06, 2011, however the site walk was cancelled and will be rescheduled at a later time.

2. Update on Trail Maps

Commission Members discussed completion of the conservation easement maps and would like to have copies available at Town Meeting. (Thompson Town Forest, Ella Stroud Memorial Forest & Cogswell Mountain Conservation Area)

The Commission discussed the cost of outsourcing the printing versus doing the printing from the Town Offices. It was concluded that printing from the Town Offices would be more cost effective. The additional cost to the Commission would be for printer ink.

Following brief discussion, Chair Tarr entertained a motion to approve payment for ink supplies needed to print the Conservation Easement Maps for Town Meeting.

Member Hollingsworth moved to approve the ink expenditures to make copies of the Trail Maps for Town Meeting, Alternate Member Derrick seconded the motion as stated; the motion passed unanimously.

D. Update on Land Protection Projects

1. Proposed Bartlett Conservation Easement Update

No further information is available at this time. The Commission is still waiting further information from the Bartlett's financial institution.

2. Proposed Gilman Conservation Easements Update

No additional information is available at this time. The Commission is awaiting further information from the Bartlett's financial institution.

Following brief discussion regarding the language pertaining to the organic growth restriction; the Commission agreed by consensus to amend the documentation to read, "Any agricultural products sold for commercial purposes shall be in compliance with the USDA National Organic Program requirements, Final Rule 7CFR Part 205, as amended, and as may be amended from time to time".

3. Update on the Countywide Input Session on Land Conservation

Member Mitchell attended the input session. The meeting was an open discussion about how towns approach and implement land conservation, and was facilitated by Carol Andrews, Executive Director of the NH Association of Conservation Commissions. Approximately 15 people attended the meeting.

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It was recommended that the Master Plan and NRI appendix, in conjunction with a conservation plan, be used as a model for planning conservation easements. Caution must be observed when identifying lands for possible conservation easements, to avoid the perceived notion experienced in other towns that the commission is attempting to conserve lands near commission members' property.

There was some discussion about land protection and the right-to-know law. Carol Andrews strongly recommended that lines on a conservation priorities map be based on natural resource boundaries and not landowner parcel boundaries.

Land conservation projects were discussed as well as the research showing the economic benefit of conservation land.

Additionally, many towns have a Forest Management Fund, which must be approved by the Town. Previous attempts to establish the FMF in Gilmanton have been voted down.

The group had decided that an additional meeting at the end of March would allow people to bring maps showing areas of interest, and abutting towns would be able to look at the maps to see what interest, if any, they had in common. Ken Knowlton of Belmont would like to speak with the GCC.

E. Wetland/Shoreland Applications

Chair Tarr recused herself and Vice-chair de Seve was seated to Chair the discussions.

- **Douglas Isleib Revocable Trust (109-14); NHDES File #2010-02006**

Ms. Tarr explained the application required additional information, that has since been provided by Stoney Ridge Environmental, LLC.

- Full Lake Elevations
- Slope of the Impact Area
- Biostabilization Plan
- Waivers

Further information will be provided as it becomes available.

Vice-chair de Seve stepped down and Chair Tarr was reseated as the Chair.

F. Complaints/Violations/Concerns

There were no new complaints/violations/concerns brought forward or discussed.

G. Update on input from Town Counsel

Commission Members briefly discussed the meeting with Town Counsel on January 26, 2011; the response is currently under review by the Board of Selectmen.

H. Update on Proposed 2011 Conservation Commission Budget and Budget Hearings

Chair Tarr attended the Budget Hearing and the only questions were related to why the Board had not expended some of the funds. It was explained that the property scheduled for timber harvest was not ready yet and that the Commission is trying to purchase a laptop and ARCVIEW Software.

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I. Preparation for the March 12, 2011 Town Meeting

The Commission briefly discussed without conclusion, the available Town owned parcels acquired for non-payment of taxes and scheduled for auction. It was additionally suggested that the Commission look into foreclosed property for possible easement consideration.

Commission Members would like to setup a table at Town Meeting. A table and one easels will be needed for the display. The Board will have a sign up sheet for interested persons who would like to serve on the Commission. Additional information related to the Commission will be available.

At past Town Meetings, Member Mitchell has arrived around 9:00 am to set up the display table. Chair Tarr will confirm with Mark Sisti, Moderator that it is okay to set up the display. There have been no issues in the past and none are expected.

The Commission agreed by consensus to provide trail map copies of the Conservation Easements located in town. In the interest of cost savings, Mrs. Tumas will make the necessary copies at the town offices. The only cost incurred would be replacement of ink.

J. Discussion of the proposed Aquifer Protection Overlay Zone

Members briefly discussed and agreed by consensus to submit a write-up to the newspaper explaining the purpose of the APO Zone. Member Mitchell will provide the draft.

K. Review of Invoices

1. Good Forestry in the Granite State (updated version)

Following brief discussion, Member Mitchell suggested the Commission purchase the updated version for \$25.00.

Chair Tarr called for further discussion, hearing none; entertained a motion to approve the purchase of Good Forestry in the Granite State.

Member Mitchell moved to approve the purchase of Good Forestry in the Granite State, Vice-chair de Seve seconded the motion as stated; the motion passed unanimously.

L. Planning Board/Zoning Board applications

Mrs. Tumas explained that in light of the numerous recommendations of the Town Planner, the Rague/Goulet Subdivision application was to be continued, at the Applicants request, until March 10, 2010.

The Planning Board will be conducting a Joint Hearing with the ZBA to hear the proposed subdivision of the "Besse Cemetery" on Halls Hill Road. The purpose of the joint hearing is due to the proposed area being less than required for a subdivision in the Rural Zone. Currently there are no provisions in the subdivision regulations to address subdividing cemeteries from a property of record.

The Planning Board will conduct a hearing for a Boundary Line Adjustment for the Price Families on Shannon Road in the Iron Works. The purpose of the BLA is to convey property allocated by a will.

Having nothing further, discussions were concluded.

M. New Business

No new business came before or was discussed by the Commission.

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N. Old Business

The Commission briefly discussed the history of the Pine Circle 1/2 interest easement that the Town currently holds and in the interest of protecting future drinking water resources, the Commission would like to purchase the other 1/2 interest in the property at a cost of \$9,000.00.

According to RSA 36 A-5:II the Commission will conduct a joint public hearing with the Board of Selectmen. The tentative date to conduct the joint hearing is February 28, 2011. The Board went on to discuss the notice requirements to determine the last day to notice the hearing in the newspaper.

Following additional discussion regarding the purchase of the other 1/2 interest in the existing Pine Circle easement, Chair Tarr entertained a motion to approve the \$9,000.00 expenditure.

Member Mitchell moved to approve the \$9,000.00 expenditure to purchase of the remaining 1/2 interest in the Pine Circle easement, Vice-chair de Seve seconded the motion as stated; the motion passed unanimously.

O. Correspondence/Announcements

There were no correspondence or announcements brought forward.

P. Upcoming Dates

1. Next regular Conservation Commission Meeting, Wednesday, March 9, 2011 at 7 pm
(The regular meeting is on Wednesday to avoid overlap with voting on Tuesday.)
2. Annual Town Election, Tuesday, March 8, 2011
3. Town Meeting, Saturday, March 12, 2011

Dates and events were provided for information purposes only. No discussions were taken up.

Chair Tarr called for further business to come before the Board, hearing none; entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Vice-Chair de Seve moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 pm, Member Mitchell seconded the motion as stated; the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Desiree Tumas
Administrator