



# Gilmanton Conservation Commission

PO Box 550

Gilmanton NH 03237-0550

Minutes of the Gilmanton Conservation Commission Meeting Held  
Wednesday, 11 March 2009, 7:00 p.m. at the Academy

Present: Sue Hale de Seve, Nanci Mitchell (Chair), Dick de Seve, Brenda Sens

Absent: Paula Gilman, Erin Hollingsworth, Ferenc Nagy, Lisa Robinson

Special Guest: Fire Chief K. G. Lockwood

Nanci asked Sue to vote as a regular member.

- A. Fire Ponds: Chief Lockwood attended the meeting to discuss fire ponds. He explained that the specifications that have been established for dry hydrants are instrumental in the creation of fire ponds. The formula Length x Width x Height is used to establish the minimum number of gallons of usable water from the pond. The strainer is two feet above the bottom of the pond and four feet above that constitutes usable water. If the person interested in constructing a fire pond is told the number of gallons needed (sustainable for a two-year period) he then goes to an engineer to provide the information as to the necessary size of the pond. Some of the pipes in town are six inches with four-and-a-half-inch ends. Chief Lockwood is changing that to six-inch ends as that increases flow and efficiency. He said that it is necessary to work with all the agencies in town and not just with the Fire Department. This is the process but there is no definition as such. Every fire pond has to have a dry hydrant. The National Fire Department Association established these requirements and all agreements are recorded at the Belknap County Registry of Deeds. The size of the fire pond is dependent on soil type. Plans have to be approved by an engineer. The Chief was asked if he would draft a statement of information about fire ponds and he agreed to do so.
- B. Minutes from 17 and 10 February 2009. Dick moved to accept both sets of Minutes; Sue seconded the motion; all voted in favor.
- C. Financial Report: \$225.00 was spent to join the Association of Conservation Commissions. Funds obtained from land use change tax are not yet reflected in our account.
- D. Status Report: No change.
- E. Wetland Applications: No new applications.
- F. Complaints/Violations/Concerns
  - a. Meadow Pond Road—we will keep an eye on it so that the slope does not wash out.

- b. Dow Road—Womack’s intent to cut covers three acres. It is possible that he is converting the area to hay.
- G. New Business:
- a. Eagle Scout Projects: Erin and Nanci met with Cody Hook and his father to discuss a trail and bridge in Stroud Forest. Walking it will be the next step. There are three possible projects: trail and bridge, kiosks, benches and a brochure.
  - b. We met with Hunter Rowley about a project in March of 2007 and thought he did something else but he is still interested in the Thompson Town Forest. Erin will get back to him. Nanci gave out a draft list of Eagle Scout projects and asked us for additional ideas.
  - c. Town Meeting: We discussed the display tables and what to put on them. Nanci will speak on Hall’s Hill and Dick will handle the water withdrawal ordinance. We decided not to take a stand on the purchase of Hattie Smith Corner for a police station.
  - d. Land Protection Workshop: The Workshop will take place on May 7, 7:00 p.m. at the Academy. The flyer was reviewed and Carolyn Baldwin’s suggestions incorporated. We will provide refreshments.
  - e. Pending topics will be reviewed when more members are present.
- H. Old Business:
- a. We will look into the idea of giving out information about water withdrawal at the opening of Gilmanton’s Farmers’ Market.
  - b. Land Protection Efforts:
    - i. New Possible Funding Sources—Aquatic Resources Mitigation Fund. The deadline is 2 June. We will look at the maps and see if we come up with any ideas. Emergency Watershed Protection Program—this concerns flooding and Gilmanton does not seem to have areas that qualify.
  - c. Perkins Farm Conservation Easement is waiting for the survey and will then be transferred to the Town.
  - d. Bellush: we are waiting for dry weather to walk it again.
  - e. Dick moved that we go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 I.d for the 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. Sue seconded the motion and everyone voted in favor of it by roll call.
  - f. Dick moved that we return to public session under RSA 91-A:3.I.d. Sue seconded the motion and all voted in favor by roll call.
- I. Planning Board
- a. Belknap County Soils Survey: we should use the new data
  - b. Hudziec subdivision on Sawyer Lake Roadside walk April 9.
  - c. Lynne has written to Rague
- J. Zoning Board of Adjustment: A question was raised about the agenda as to what was to be discussed regarding septic systems. Nanci will get more information.

- K. Board of Selectmen: The result of the mediation in the Morrill case is that they have to do some things to Donovan Road but nothing on Gale Road. We are to do as little as possible to the road in order to get the wood out safely when the logging is done in the Thompson Town Forest.
- L. Nanci handed around announcements that were received.
- M. There were no intents to cut.
- N. Upcoming Dates:
  - a. Planning Board meeting, 12 March 2009
  - b. Town Meeting, 14 March 2009
  - c. Belknap Range Conservation Coalition, 19 March 2009
  - d. Wildlife Workshop Series: 17 April – Sandwich, 16 May – Gilmanton, 5 June – Gilmanton, 19 June – South Tamworth

The meeting ended at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Sens, Secretary

The Minutes are not accepted until signed.