



# Gilmanton Conservation Commission

PO Box 550

Gilmanton NH 03237-0550

Minutes of the Meeting of the Gilmanton Conservation Commission\  
Held Tuesday, 8 April 2008

Present: Paula Gilman, Erin Hollingsworth, Nanci Mitchell (Chair), Ferenc Nagy, Brenda Sens

Absent: Sue Hale de Seve, Eric Rowley, Dick de Seve

Guest Ann Bartlett

Nanci asked Erin to vote for Dick.

Ann Bartlett attended the meeting to discuss the possibility of a conservation easement on her property. We looked at the map and made a number of suggestions as to the area that might be involved. The GCC urged Ann to work with a lawyer and to obtain an appraiser who would be able to give her some idea of what the land would be worth without an easement and what it would be worth with one. Ann agreed that this would be a good way to proceed.

- A. Paula moved to accept the Minutes of 12 March. Ferenc seconded the motion and all voted in favor.
- B. Electronic Votes: We decided to intervene in the latest Rague culvert plan.
- C. Financial Report: We have spent \$493.50 to date and received \$410.32 in interest on our conservation land account.
- D. Status Report: This appears at the end of the Minutes.
- E. Wetland Applications: Rague called Nanci to say that he had done everything DES asked him to do. We are not sure about the angle of the culvert and the changes made to the terrain. The letter to DES asking them to intervene has been sent.
- F. Complaints/Violations/Concerns:
  - a. We received a complaint about a horse on Cedar Lane because the animal and the manure pile appeared to be on conservation land and too close to the water. When Bob Flanders and Nanci went out to look at the situation, the horse and the manure pile were gone. The ASPCA contacted the landowner because the horse was standing in water, only had a plastic tarp for shelter, and was eating trees due to a lack of food. There is also a trailer there that appears to be on town land. Bob Flanders will check this.
  - b. A home insulation business sign was placed on Ella Stroud Memorial Forest. Dick called the business and the sign was taken down.
- G. New Business:
  - a. The Thompson Town Forest walk will take place on Saturday, 26 April, starting at 9:30 a.m. A pre-walk with the new Belknap County forester will take place on the 21<sup>st</sup> so that he will know the terrain before the town walk. We will advertise the event on our website, with posters in the Town Hall, Post Offices, and stores and will also send the information to a number of newspapers.
  - b. Nanci has started collecting trail maps and lists of trails. Erin is creating a list of people interested in helping with trails and she will notify the people on that list about the town

forest walk. We will have a work session to discuss what to do with our work volunteers and how to proceed with an inclusive trail map.

- c. Nanci showed the Commission the map of conservation land she had just completed and we decided to use this map rather than have the Forest Society do one for us.
- d. Diane Nyren who lives on Valley Shore is interested in buying a town lot for a well. She will come to our meeting on 13 May to discuss this with us. As this is conservation land, the sale would have to be approved at town meeting.
- e. We have discussed the possibility of designating prime wetlands. The process for this is described in Appendix B of our Natural Resource Inventory. Considerable field and office work is required and a town vote is necessary to make the designation official.

#### H. Old Business:

- a. A review of Conservation Commission tasks will be done when the entire membership is present
- b. We need to put frequently asked questions on our website. Erin brought in wonderful information sheets about forests that could be placed on our website and we will try to do the same with information about wetlands and shoreline protection. We will wait until Dick is present.
- c. Diane Nyren is interested in being one of our volunteers.
- d. Land Protection:
  - i. The status of the Rocky Pond Mitigation Area is unclear—there is nothing in the deed about public access.
  - ii. Bingham Farm: two lots have been sold to Las Vegas Acquisitions for \$175,000 and \$165,000 respectively. We will have to keep an eye on what is done and make sure the people involved are aware of the easement restrictions.
  - iii. The Bingham Farm baseline is about 3/4ths done.
  - iv. The Robinette conservation easement on Tibbetts Road with 5RCT is almost done.
  - v. A walk on the Guarino property will be arranged.
  - vi. The file cabinets have been organized and the files that are to go in the vault have been put together.
- e. Signs: we will discuss this next time as we are not able to put them up at this time in any case.
- f. We have not yet discussed the trail behind the library with John Allen who is away at this time.
- g. The cub scouts are going to build duck houses for the beaver pond on the Allens' conservation land. They will monitor the houses with supervision.

#### I. Planning Board

- a. The Benson storage unit is not considered a building so is not subject to setbacks. He needs to get a survey done that shows the delineated wetlands. Benson has since told Lynne Brunelle that he is moving the unit another 25 feet further away from the wetlands.
- b. The Bellush subdivision and conservation easement is on the agenda for Thursday evening. Nanci handed out her notes on the subject for those of us who are able to attend.

#### J. Zoning Board of Adjustment

- a. The proposal on Sawyer Lake's Wood Lane cannot meet setbacks but now they only need a special exception.

- b. Gibbons—they have to meet the restrictions of the Shoreline Protection Act and implement erosion control. Nanci looked at the site with Bob Flanders.
- K. Board of Selectmen: agenda not yet available.
- L. Correspondence/Announcements: DES is holding a workshop about drinking water protection on May 19.
- M. No intents to cut.
- N. Upcoming Dates:
  - a. Planning Board, Thursday, 10 April 2008, 7 p.m.
  - b. Thompson Town Forest pre-walk, 21 April 2008, 8:30 a.m..
  - c. Thompson Town Forest Walk, Saturday, 26 April 2008, 9:30 a.m.
  - d. Next GCC meeting, Tuesday, 13 May 2008, 7 p.m.
  - e. Belknap Range Conservation Coalition Public Informational Meetings, 15 May 2008 at Gilford Town Hall and 28 May at Gilman Museum in Alton. Both programs at 7 p.m.

The meeting ended at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Sens, Secretary

The Minutes are not accepted until signed.

GILMANTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
Status Report for April 8, 2008 Meeting

A. Wetland Applications

1. Town, Middle Route, after-the-fact application for culvert replacements. More information requested by DES.
2. Linda Hamilton, Stony Point (Rocky Pond), Shoreland Variance Waiver. More information requested by DES.