



# Gilmanton Conservation Commission

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## Minutes of June 9, 2020

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Chairman Dick de Seve. Those present included Chairman Dick de Seve, Alternate Member Sue Hale-de Seve, Vice Chair Jennifer Baker, Member Stephen Hopkins, Member Patrick Hackley, Member Ed Bernstine, Member Paula Gilman, and Alt. Member Thomas Dombrowski along with the Conservation Commission Clerk Bre Daigneault. Members of the public included Amanda Stone and Nanci Mitchell. Due to the COVID-19 emergency order, this meeting was held virtually by utilizing the Zoom platform.

### **A. Minutes of May 12, 2020**

Member Hopkins made the motion to accept the minutes of May 12, 2020 as written. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Baker. **All in 5-0 in favor**

### **B. Correspondence/Announcements**

- Member Hackley met with property owner Mark Warren to view fallen trees on town property leaning over Mr. Warren's property. Mr. Warren was requesting permission to remove the fallen trees. Member Hackley relayed the commission typically only grants this if the trees are in danger of falling onto someone property or if it is a safety hazard. The consensus of the commission was to not allow cutting on town property. There was one tree that hangs over Mr. Warren's property at approximately a 45° angle that could possibly be taken down. This brought up the need for liability waivers and/or insurance binders for persons doing work on town property.
- Member Gilman brought attention to the nesting bobolinks in the field on Province Rd. It is not safe to mow the hay fields with ground nesting birds until after August 1st. Members discussed contacting those that hay the field to request they postpone haying until after such time.

Chair de Seve called to move forward item H on the agenda.

### **H. New Business-** Natural Resource update with Amanda Stone

Ms. Stone was invited by the GCC to discuss ways to update the Natural Resource Inventory (NRI). She is quite familiar with the current NRI, which was written in 2004. This version was very well done and gives a good base for a new NRI. The GCC should determine whether they are able to complete the update themselves or hire a consultant. The NRI could be tied into the master plan to save on resources and time for both boards. Ms. Mitchell offered additional advice, as she was the main contributor in creating the 2004 NRI. Ms. Stone demonstrated many resources available to the GCC to obtain information to aid in the NRI update. She showed different maps available from the NH Fish and Game Wildlife Action Plan. The [takingactionforwildlife.org](http://takingactionforwildlife.org) website has most of the information needed to complete the wildlife habitat section of the NRI. Member Hackley inquired as to the costs associated with hiring a consultant. Ms. Stone stated they can range somewhere between \$5,000 and \$15,000, depending on the function of the consultant. Ms. Mitchell stated the GCC should review the warrant article for the conservation fund, as it may not be able to be used for this purpose.

**C. Conservation Easements, Monitoring and Stewardship**

**D. Wetlands/Shorelands/Biosolid/Intent-to-Cut/Forestry Notifications/Applications**

**E. Review of Invoices/Cost/Budget**

**F. Planning Board/Zoning Board Applications**

**G. Complaints/Violations/Concerns**

- Admin. Daigneault received a complaint regarding the cutting trees on a water front lot on Valley Shore Dr. Chair de Seve will drive by the property to see if any infractions are being made.
- There had been a question by a resident whether camping was allowed on Town owned land. It was found in the Town Ordinances and Regulations, updated 1995, that camping is not allowed on town owned land.

**H. Old Business**

- Strategic Planning- It was decided to postpone this discussion.
- Chair de Seve inquired as to the size of the Autumn Olive bush on town conservation land as Member Gilman requested the removal of at the prior meeting. Members Gilman and Dombrowski would remove the bush.
- Chair de Seve will be meeting with a roofer to look at the barn on Meeting House. The quote will determine if this project needs to go to bid.
- Frisky Hill- Member Hackley stated he has been in touch with NHDOT. There has not been any additional progress.

**I. Upcoming Dates-**

The next meeting of the Conservation Commission will be on **Tuesday, July 9, 2020.**

**Adjournment**

Member Gilman made the motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Alt. Member Dombrowski. All in favor 6-0. Chairman de Seve closed the meeting at 8:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Bre Daigneault, Conservation Admin.*

Attested by:



*Dick de Seve, Chair*

on

*9/18/20*

*Date*