



Gilmanton Conservation Commission

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Minutes of December 8, 2020

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by Chairman Dick de Seve. Those present included Chairman Dick de Seve, Alternate Member Sue Hale-de Seve, Member Stephen Hopkins, Member Patrick Hackley, Member Paula Gilman, and Alt. Member Thomas Dombrowski along with the Conservation Commission Clerk Bre Daigneault. Vice Chair Jennifer Baker and Member Ed Bernstine were absent. There was one member of the public attending. Due to the COVID-19 emergency order, this meeting was held virtually by utilizing the *Zoom* platform.

A. Minutes

November 10, 2020

Alt. Member Hale-de Seve made the motion to accept the minutes of November 10, 2020 as written. Member Gilman seconded. **Motion passed 6-0**

B. Correspondence/Announcements

Admin. Daigneault had received two inquiries from residents on possibly joining the commission.

Chair de Seve had sent a letter to a property owner on Currier Hill Rd regarding the potential impact of wetlands. He had not received any response from the owner, therefor has no ability to go onto the property.

C. Conservation Easements, Monitoring and Stewardship

Members Gilman and Dombrowski had walked a couple of properties and had sent in monitoring reports for the Samuel Gilman Corner and the Meeting House Pond Conservation area. They had not seen any issues at either site. Member Gilman suggested clarifying the names of the easements, for example there are three parcels on Frisky Hill requiring monitoring. Alt. Member Hale-de Seve had updated this on the monitoring report spreadsheet.

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

There is a one lot subdivision which exceeds the minimum lot sizes and frontage (on Halls Hill Rd). Member Hopkins, himself, is applying for a lot line adjustment with an abutting property. Admin. Daigneault had received two intents to cut which had been forwarded to members for review. The owners had completed a wetlands permit by notification for the operation. Member Gilman had reviewed a cut taking place at the bottom of Parsons Hill with concern to wetlands disturbance. Members felt a house lot was being cleared and it was not affecting wetlands.

E. Review of Invoices/Cost/Budget

Admin. Daigneault had not received any in recent weeks.

Member Hackley had met with the Budget Committee the prior week. There was discussion regarding the time necessary for a town employee working with the commission.

Member Hopkins requested to discuss the possible increase to the Land Use Change Tax.

Member Hackley stated Members Hopkins and Bernstine had provided some of the narrative, and the commission had wanted to provide some statistical data along with the narrative, such as growth in town, building permits, etc. Member Gilman inquired how to stress the importance of funding the Conservation Fund to aid in conserving properties. Member Hackley felt people

move to Gilmanton for its rural character. The GCC is trying to keep Gilmanton, Gilmanton. The GCC needs the funding to be proactive to conserve some of these areas, even to protect ridgeline viewpoints. Currently the contribution from the LUCT tax is the first \$2,500 plus 10% after that. Member Hopkins referred to the strategic plan which listed this as one of the priorities of the GCC. Members would work on developing the quantitative and qualitative rationale for requesting this increase. Members discussed a logical percentage to request from the BOS. The warrant article would also go to the Budget Committee, Town meeting deliberative session, then to the ballot for vote. It is a balancing act between development with increasing the tax base and keeping the rural feel.

F. Planning Board/Zoning Board Applications

G. Complaints/Violations/Concerns

H. New Business- None

I. Old Business

J. Upcoming Dates-

The next meeting of the Conservation Commission will be on **Tuesday, January 12, 2021.**

Adjournment

Chair de Seve closed the meeting at 8:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bre Daigneault, Conservation Admin.

Attested by: _____ on _____

Dick de Seve, Chair

Date