



Gilmanton Conservation Commission

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Minutes of January 12, 2021

APPROVED

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm by Chairman Dick de Seve. Those present included Chairman de Seve, Alternate Member Sue Hale-de Seve, Member Stephen Hopkins, Member Patrick Hackley, Member Paula Gilman, Alt. Member Thomas Dombrowski, and Member Ed Bernstine along with the Conservation Commission Clerk Bre Daigneault. Vice Chair Jennifer Baker was 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.

With one member absent, Chair de Seve appointed Member Dombrowski to act as a full member.

A. Minutes

December 8, 2020

Member Hopkins requested the date of the next meeting be corrected. Member Hopkins made the motion to accept the minutes of December 8, 2020 as amended. Member Gilman seconded.

Motion passed 6-0

B. Correspondence/Announcements

Chair de Seve inquired about residents whom showed interest in joining the GCC the prior month. Admin. Daigneault had not heard back from one gentleman. The other candidate was in attendance.

C. Conservation Easements, Monitoring and Stewardship- None

D. Wetlands/Shorelands/Biosolid/Intent-to-Cut/Forestry Notifications/Applications- None

E. Review of Invoices/Cost/Budget

Member Hackley had attended a budget committee meeting the prior month. He inquired of having the salary line adjusted. He also asked of purchasing the GPS units for easement monitoring. Admin. Daigneault felt it would now be coming out of the 2021 budget. Member Hackley would look into researching GPS units. Member Hopkins inquired as to the proposed budget. He wished to view, beyond the fixed costs; what budget would be available for the committee's initiatives. Member Hackley shared a side-by-side comparison of the 2020 budget and proposed 2021 budget. Chair de Seve felt the reasoning for the GPS units is to support conservation lands, therefor should be eligible to utilize the conservation fund. It was discussed the Beaver Meadow field costs approximately \$500 per year to have mowed. Member Gilman felt the cost was excessive and herself and Member Dombrowski could handle mowing the field themselves. This would free up a little extra money for the GPS units. Member Hopkins felt they could discuss the money available and uses at the next meeting.

F. Planning Board/Zoning Board Applications

Admin. Daigneault stated the ZBA agenda had not been posted yet. The Planning Board would be discussing proposed Zoning Ordinance amendments.

G. Complaints/Violations/Concerns- None

H. New Business-

A letter from the GLT was received for a temporary alternative site for the boulder recognition plaque. Chair opened the discussion up for suggestion. Member Hopkins felt it was a suitable location. Alt. member Hale-de Seve felt this was not where the boulder was meant to be placed; it should be at the site (on Frisky Hill). Members Hackley and Gilman did not have a problem with the placement at the Meeting House site. Chair de Seve was concerned that once the boulder is placed there, it would not be moved. The plaque was meant to be as visible as possible to recognize the people responsible for aiding in conserving the land. The intent was to be in a high traffic area. Alt. Member Hale-de Seve did not feel this was a high traffic area. Member Bernstine was not a part of the original discussion on Frisky Hill; however, the abutters had their say. They should deal with this as a separate matter. Could this boulder be a centerpiece to an area that could be considered the center of the commission? Chair said a definite decision does not need to be made now. He agrees, the sign should be taken as a separate issue from the Frisky Hill access. He didn't believe abutters had a problem with the recognition sign. Chair felt this could be pushed aside at the moment and something could be decided at a later meeting. Alt. Member Hale-de Seve stated the point of the plaque was to be displayed on Frisky Hill. This was decided many years ago and should not still be up for debate. Member Hackley turned focus to the other request from GLT; to submit management plans for all of Gilmanton's conservation lands and how they have provided access to them. He had asked of Chair if he had located the Meeting House management plan. They had not located the plan, though one was developed soon after purchasing it. Member Hackley did not feel the GCC would need to respond in any substantive way to providing handicap access to other conservation properties. Member Gilman stated many conservation lands, such as Pine Forest, do not have good access. Members were in agreement; they do not need to respond to the GLT regarding access. As budgetary means and time allows, the commission would work on addressing forestry management plans. Member Hopkins recommended referring to the strategic plan to help the GLT understand where the priorities of the commission stand. Member Bernstine recommended taking notes on accessibility as they monitor properties. Chair de Seve would respond to the request of the GLT.

I. Old Business

Land Use Change Tax warrant article- Members de Seve, Hopkins, and Hackley made a presentation to the Selectmen to discuss a warrant article raising the LUCT appropriations to the conservation fund. The Selectmen wanted to know what properties they were looking to purchase. Chair tried to explain, the commission needs to be ready when something comes up. All three Selectmen turned down the request. Members felt they could be more active participants at Selectmen's meetings. Member Hackley recommended one person attend every other month to update the BOS on the commission's happenings.

NRI- Members gave a brief update on their progress with the NRI update.

J. Upcoming Dates-

The next meeting of the Conservation Commission will be on **Tuesday, February 9, 2021**

Adjournment

Member Gilman made the motion to adjourn. Member Dombrowski seconded. All in favor.
Chair de Seve closed the meeting at 8:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bre Daigneault, Conservation Admin.

Attested by: _____ on _____

Dick de Seve, Chair

Date