



Gilmanton Conservation Commission

PO Box 550

Gilmanton NH 03237-0550

conservation@gilmantonnh.org (603) 267-6700 ext. 122

Minutes of March 9, 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, and Member Ed Bernstine along with the Conservation Commission Clerk Bre Daigneault. Vice Chair Jennifer Baker, Member Paula Gilman, and Alt. Member Thomas Dombrowski were absent. Members of the public attending included Soren Denlinger and Barry Christensen. Due to the COVID-19 emergency order, this meeting was held virtually by utilizing the Zoom platform.

A. Minutes

Member Bernstine made the motion to accept the minutes of February 9, 2021 as written. Member Hopkins seconded. **Motion passed 5-0**

B. Correspondence/Announcements

- Resident Barry Christensen was seeking a recommendation to be appointed to the Commission as an alternate. Members favored the request and would make the recommendation to the Selectmen.
- Resident Soren Deringer offered to volunteer any assistance to the commission.
- Chair de Seve had been contacted by Donna Hepp of the Belknap County Conservation District. They will be applying for grant money for town forest management plans and would like Gilmanton to be a recipient. Chair felt the Betty Smithers Forest would be a good area to target. Member Hackley agreed. Mr. Deringer was familiar with the town forest. Chair asked Mr. Deringer if he would be willing to submit photos of the forest. Member Hackley would reach out to Forester Ron Klemarczyk to give an estimate of the cost for a management plan.
- Chair stated Member Jennifer Baker has requested an extension to her leave of absence from the commission until June. Members did not have a problem with her extension request.

C. Conservation Easements, Monitoring and Stewardship

- The commission had received monitoring reports from Alison Scheiderer of Five Rivers Conservation Trust for the Frisky Hill parcels, the Meetinghouse parcel, and the Christie parcels. The report indicated the Meetinghouse parcel had some garbage, a couple of kayaks, compost piles, and a trailer on the town land. The report indicated the abutting land owner was aware of the town boundary but believes the compost piles are an "agricultural use". Chair would follow up with Ms. Scheiderer to clarify the outcome with the land owner. Member Hackley felt the use was not detrimental to the land but is not allowable on the town land. Chair would send a letter to the owner reminding them of the terms of the easement. The Christie parcel had rotting pumpkins, dog waste in bags, trees had been cut, and some trees had been marked with white marks on the town land. Member Hackley felt the owners need to be put on notice to what was observed.

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

E. Review of Invoices/Cost/Budget

- The first installment of the Twigg barn roof repair will be made to the contractor this week.

F. Planning Board/Zoning Board Applications

- Planning Board- Gilmanton's Own had applied for a site plan for the new location at 739 Province Rd.
- ZBA- Property owners of 79 Levitt Rd are requesting to replace a garage within the setbacks of a water body. The new garage would not be any closer to the water body than the existing garage. It would be expanded on the opposite side of the setbacks.

G. Complaints/Violations/Concerns

- Chair de Seve reviewed a complaint regarding potential cutting within the wetlands. He viewed the property from the road side and from across Shellcamp. He did not see any signs of cutting.

H. New Business

- Member Hackley had purchased two GPS units for the commission's use.

I. Old Business

- Member Hopkins inquired as to the progress of the Allen property donation. There had not been any changes in the status. Chair would contact Mr. Allen to see if they could get permission to walk the property.
- NRI Update- Members viewed how to edit the NRI by utilizing Google Docs. Member Hackley would supply a copy of *Good Forestry in the Granite State* as a resource to utilize while updating the NRI.

Members Gilman and Dombrowski had sent in comments for the commission as they were not able to attend this meeting. Topics included:

- the need for ideas to start the CC Facebook page
- NRI Update- has sent out agricultural surveys
- Renaming the Meeting House barn in honor of Tom Howe
- Belmont Conservation is fighting to keep their 100% of the land use change tax
- Encouraged the addition of new members
- No concerns with February minutes

Members agree with renaming the barn or even the forest associated with the barn in Tom Howe's honor.

Chair updated the commission on the Solarize Gilmanton Campaign. They have selected a solar installer to move forward with the project. The more people who sign up, the lower price everyone will get. Member Hackley made the suggestion for the Energy Committee to promote a wood chip furnace at the school, if one is needed in the near future.

The Town of Sanbornton has set up the Sanbornton Land Trust. Member Gilman had suggested to Chair this may be something to look into in the future.

J. Upcoming Dates-

The next meeting of the Conservation Commission will be on **Tuesday, April 13, 2021**

Adjournment

Chair de Seve closed the meeting at 8:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bre Daigneault, Conservation Admin.

Attested by: _____ on _____

Dick de Seve, Chair

Date