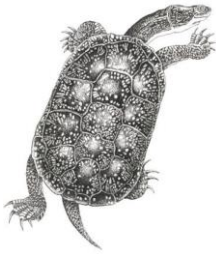


Gilmanton Conservation Commission

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Minutes of May 11, 2021

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:04pm by Chairman Dick de Seve. Those present included Chairman de Seve, Alternate Member Sue Hale-de Seve, Member Patrick Hackley, Member Paula Gilman, Alt. Member Thomas Dombrowski, and Alt. Member Barry Christensen along with the Conservation Commission Clerk Bre Daigneault. Vice Chair Jennifer Baker, Member Stephen Hopkins, and Member Ed Bernstine were absent. Members of the public attending included Soren Denlinger. Due to the COVID-19 emergency order, this meeting was held virtually by utilizing the *Zoom* platform.

Chairman de Seve appointed alternate members Hale-de Seve and Dombrowski as acting members for tonight's meeting.

A. Minutes

Member Hale-de Seve made the motion to accept the minutes of April 13, 2021 as written. Member Hackley seconded. **Motion passed 5-0**

B. Correspondence/Announcements

- Lori Baldwin of the Gilmanton Historical Society requested to meet with members of the GCC at the Twigg Barn (on Meeting House Rd) to discuss its use as a meeting and event place. Chair de Seve would contact Ms. Baldwin to arrange a time a few members could review the property and report back to the commission.
- Replacement of the barn roof had been slightly delayed, however the contractor hoped to start the following week.

C. Conservation Easements, Monitoring and Stewardship

- As a property owner with a conservation easement, Member Gilman requested to have another member walk her property with her for an updated monitoring report.

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

- Two intents had been reviewed by members; one on Route 140, the other on Guinea Ridge Rd. Member Hackley inquired of the process for the GCC reviewing intents prior to being signed. Admin. Daigneault (also Assessing Admin. for the town) responded that she forwards intents for feedback from the Conservation Commission and passes the information on to the property owner and logger. However, the Selectmen cannot refuse to sign an intent based on GCC concerns. Member Hackley felt it was a good for the GCC to review and raise any concerns. This also puts the landowner on notice that the GCC is keeping an eye on properties in town.

E. Review of Invoices/Cost/Budget

- Belknap Range Conservation Coalition- Chair de Seve stated the GCC had been members in years passed but for some reason had not for the past few. Chair de Seve requested a vote on whether to join the BRCC costing \$40 for the year. Member Gilman made the motion join BRCC for \$40. Member Hale-de Seve seconded. **Motion passed 5-0.**

- Admin. Daigneault advised the GCC that budget meetings would be starting earlier this year. The Selectmen are requesting preliminary budget hearings in August. Members discussed meeting with the Selectmen to update them on recent GCC happenings and discuss the land use change tax. Members wished to meet with the Selectmen at their next meeting on May 17th. The pending Allen property donation would be a good example for an increase in the LUCT contributions. If this property was to be sold, and not donated to the Town, the GCC would not have sufficient funds to be able to preserve the property. The GCC is not against development, but would like to balance the increase in development with keeping rural areas. Member Gilman reminded the GCC of one of the main things the townspeople wanted to maintain in town is the rural character, as indicated in the Master Plan.

F. Planning Board/Zoning Board Applications

- Planning Board would be reviewing a one-lot subdivision on Sargent Rd. There were no concerns.

G. Complaints/Violations/Concerns- None

H. New Business

- Chair de Seve had spoken with Sarah Thorne and discussed the easement to the Meeting House Rd. property. The easement clarified the trails are to be named in honor of Joe Urner. He had contacted Kathy Urner, the heir of Mr. Urner; she felt as long as the trailhead is named for Mr. Urner, she would have no problem with the parcel or barn named in honor of Tom Howe. The GCC, along with the Gilmanton Land Trust, would look to hold a dedication this summer in honor of both Mr. Urner and Mr. Howe.

I. Old Business

- NRI update- Chair de Seve had reviewed the wetlands and vernal pool sections, comparing them with Good Forestry (in NH publication). Member Gilman was still working on locating and contacting all the farms in Gilmanton. Resident volunteer Delinger recommended a section on climate change. Member Hackley said the State has completed an updated Forest Action Plan. It is currently being reviewed by the US Forest Service for approval. There is a detailed section on climate change in the plan which can be referenced and utilized in the NRI.

Other- Member Hale-de Seve wanted to share upcoming Energy Committee events. One being “Button-Up” on how to make your home more energy efficient. The other a solar event taking place on June 5th. A tour would be conducted of existing solar energy systems in town followed by a question and answer.

Chair de Seve stated the trail sign for the Thompson Town Forest in honor of Ferenc Nagy has been completed and a date will be set for the sign placement.

J. Upcoming Dates-

The next meeting of the Conservation Commission will be on **Tuesday, June 8, 2021**

Adjournment

Chair de Seve closed the meeting at 8:15pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bre Daigneault, Conservation Admin.

Attested by: _____ on _____

Dick de Seve, Chair

Date