



Gilmanton Conservation Commission

PO Box 550, Gilmanton NH 03237-0550

Richard de Seve, Chairman
Patrick Hackley, Member
Stephen Hopkins, Member
Paula Gilman, Member
Susan Hale-de Seve, Member
Thomas Dombrowski, Member
Ron O'Connor, Member
Bre Daigneault, Com. Dev. Dir.

MINUTES APPROVED AS AMENDED

Tuesday, July 12, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Academy Building, 503 Province Road, Gilmanton, NH

Members in attendance include Chair Dick de Seve, members Sue Hale-de Seve, Paula Gilman, Thom Dombrowski, Ron O'Connor along with staff Bre Daigneault and Lauraine Paquin. Absent were members Patrick Hackley and Stephen Hopkins.

Lori Baldwin arrived at 6:43 pm and no other members of the public were present.

Call to Order at 6:03pm.

A. **Review of Minutes** – May 10, 2022

Member Gilman had a small change on the last page in the third bullet.

Chair de Seve notified Pastor Chris he has the commission's ongoing permission for Easter Service. Member Gilman asked if Paul Osbourne and the school were notified and Chair de Seve notified Paul Osbourne but wasn't sure who to contact at the school. Staff Daigneault believes the school was not going to utilize the trail this summer and was asked to reach out to let them know it is available if they change their mind.

Member Gilman motioned to accept as amended. Seconded by Member Dombrowski. **All in favor, Motion passed 5-0**

B. **Correspondence/Announcements**

• Member Dombrowski, Trails Subcommittee Update

On the Cogswell Mountain property, the five bridges are finished. They will need another day to finish putting down the wood chips and need to shore up the kiosk. Work will begin on the Urner Trail's two bridges and foot paths. The trail has been rerouted around the trees that have come down and tape will be put in front of the trees so people don't use that part of the trail. There is blazing that will need to be done on Cogswell Trail and will go back to do that after the Urner Trail is finished.

- Member Dombrowski asked about the money that was donated as it was his understanding that all the money was specifically for trail maintenance. Staff Daigneault believed it is for trail maintenance. Member Dombrowski asked if the money is for trail maintenance, why do we have to come to the board to ask for that money? Staff Daigneault clarified the money is in a conservation fund and the procedure is for the commission to approve the expense, Chair de Seve to sign off on that expense and then it goes to the Town's Finance office to cut a check from the fund. Member Gilman asked how soon can that happen? Member Dombrowski expressed his concern for future monies being held up on parties getting paid. Chair de Seve explained if there is an expense and they know the amount it can be voted on tonight. Member Dombrowski motioned to approve all monies outstanding for the trails committee. Member Gilman seconded. **All in favor, Motion passed 5-0.** Staff Daigneault clarified again for Member Dombrowski how the conservation fund works for payment. Member Gilman



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40 motioned to approve all future work for the trails committee. Member Dombrowski
41 seconded. **All in favor, Motion passed 5-0.**

- 42 • Chair de Seve asked Member Dombrowski if he would file the monitor report for
43 Cogswell and submit the report to the Forest Society. Chair de Seve stated he is still
44 waiting for an answer from them to see if they will hold the easement since Cogswell will
45 be deeded to the town and the town currently holds the easement so that is a conflict.

46 **C. Conservation Easement Monitoring and Stewardship**

- 47 • Chair de Seve mentioned that Valley Shores is finally monitored and the roads are worse.
48 He will write up the report for that. Member Gilman has some friends who are back in
49 Gilmanton and both would like to volunteer for the commission and one would like to be
50 on the trails.
- 51 • Member O'Connor mentioned he was on Loon Pond this weekend and saw a kayak
52 tucked up on the next property over from the grove property. He saw a fire burning and
53 heard sawing and when he got close, he saw a hut. Guy Knowlton, who manages the
54 cove, has walked over and viewed the hut. He was going to check with Drew Taylor to
55 see if he knows anything. Member Gilman stated she walked that area on Sunday and
56 didn't see anything and it is clearly marked conservation.

57 **D. Wetland/Shoreland/Biosolid/Intent-to-Cut/Forestry Notifications/Applications**

58 Staff Daigneault stated for the Planning Board there is an information discussion with the
59 property owner that the Gilmanton Ironworks Post Office is on, would like to utilize some
60 area for boat storage. There is one case for the Zoning Board. Chair de Seve asked if the
61 Planning Board made a decision for the property at the end of Allens Mill? Staff Daigneault
62 stated they did make a decision and some of the conditions were, they had to stay so many
63 feet from wetlands, place gravel, put a berm and the dumpster remain closed while being
64 stored. Chair de Seve mentioned the property on the other side of Allens Mill shows
65 pending and stated some concern as he believes it has wetlands and could need a wetlands
66 delineation.

67 **E. Review of Invoices/Costs/Budget**

68 Was done earlier in the meeting

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

70 Staff Daigneault mentioned the ZBA case on 7 Eagle Lane and the commission has already
71 reviewed the wetlands application as they are tearing down and rebuilding on the same
72 footprint.

73 **G. Complaints/Violations/Concerns**

74 Chair de Seve asked if the complaint on the Urner Trail was about the downed trees and Staff
75 Daigneault confirmed it was. Member Dombrowski mentioned that none of the members
76 feel they have the ability to remove the trees so rerouting was the best option.

77 **H. New Business**

- 78 • Member Gilman submitted to Staff Daigneault some invasive species photos. In the
79 photos shown, the Barberry is all the green growth and is creating a mini forest. It is
80 located along Pine Hill Rd near Foss Cemetery. Good news it is confined and the bad
81 news is there is a lot of it. One of the non-herbicidal ways to remove it is continuous



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82 mowing or brush hogging. Chair de Seve asked Member Gilman to continue to do some
83 research on removing this. He will also reach out to Member Hopkins and see if the state
84 has any suggestions.

- 85 • Conservation Land Ordinance – Chair de Seve felt this type of ordinance is a good idea.
86 Member Gilman had emailed some ordinances from City of Concord, Town of Exeter
87 and Town of Milford a while ago and will have resent. Chair de Seve stated he wants to
88 do the same with wetlands overlay ordinances. Member Gilman stated she was directed
89 to www.scenicnh.com and it has good information. Another concern she had was the
90 town forest ordinance and the conservation ordinance cannot be combined but a lot can
91 be taken from the town ordinance for what can and cannot be done. Another thing she
92 found was documentation, that was passed out, regarding metal detectors on historic
93 sites. She is hoping to hear soon if Tom Howe property will be historic site. Member
94 Gilman asked Staff Daigneault her thoughts about putting out two ordinances and
95 creating a fund. Staff Daigneault stated the ordinances do not need to go on the ballot but
96 she will check on that. To start a fund for the town forest will need to be a warrant
97 article. It would need to be two warrant articles, one to start the fund and one to
98 appropriate funds into the fund for 2023.

99 I. Old Business

- 100 • Chair de Seve explained to Lori Baldwin the check for the \$600 has been sent and tonight
101 the commission approved the invoice for current work and the invoice for Belletetes for
102 future work. Lori Baldwin mentioned that the bridges and foot paths are finished on
103 Cogswell Trail. In the fall they will work on the Summit Trail. The Urner Trail will be
104 worked on the next two Wednesdays. The trails committee did an assessment walk
105 through of Jones Farm. It will need maintenance, reblazed and work done on the kiosk
106 and parking lot. Chair de Seve asked if the Jones Farm needs to be monitored each year
107 and the commission is unsure. Chair de Seve mentioned what Member O'Connor saw on
108 the back of Jones Farm and she is aware of it. Lori Baldwin went over the event
109 happening on July 23rd at Tom Howe Barn.
- 110 • Chair de Seve stated that Member Hopkins mentioned they need to spend time
111 prioritizing the items for the NRI. Chair de Seve has done some earlier ones but there are
112 a lot of them so they need to be prioritized. Member Gilman mentioned each member
113 should have their own priorities and send those to Member Hopkins.
- 114 • Member Gilman asked Chair de Seve if he has heard anything regarding the complaint on
115 Rte 129 and he has not. He did mention the property on Lakeshore Dr has taken down all
116 trees to the shoreline. DES should make them replant at the least. He mentioned the
117 pond has some plant life but it is not invasive so the State will not give anything because
118 they only give for invasive. Member Gilman asked when people buy property on the
119 water does anyone give them information of what they can and cannot do? Member
120 O'Connor stated the realtors give people the information of who to contact for that
121 information.
- 122 • The commission went over their preliminary numbers for the 2023 budget.



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124 J. **Upcoming Dates**

- 125 • Next Conservation Commission Meeting: August 9, 2022

126 Member Gilman made the motion to adjourn. Member Dombrowski seconded.

127 Respectfully Submitted, Richard de Seve, Chairman