

TOWN OF TUFTONBORO
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
240 Middle Road
Ctr. Tuftonboro, NH 03816
Meeting Minutes
May 18, 2020

Because of Covid-19 the 05/18/20 meeting was conducted by telephone conference. The following people attended the meeting and were identified by roll call.

Members Present: Chairman Steve Wingate, Vice Chairman Mike Phelps, Members: Stephen Scapicchio, Mark Howard, Laurel Podsen, Kate Nesbit and Larry Gil

Members Absent: Selectmen's Representative Lloyd Wood, Alternate Member: Kathleen Murphy

Vistors: Heather Brown

Chairman Steve Wingate opened the meeting at 6:35pm

I) Consideration of Minutes

a) March 16, 2020

- Larry moved to accept the minutes as written, Kate 2nd motion, roll call as follows: Mark- yes, Stephen – yes, Laurel – yes, Mike – yes, Steve-yes, Kate-yes, Larry - yes

II) Discussion Items

a) Great Meadow

1) Acquisition Progress

- The owner of the second piece of the GM Acquisition is now back and has contacted the attorney in order to finalize the transaction. He is waiting for a call back. Larry asked what else needs to be done with the acquisition process. Steve said that after the owner closes and we own the lot, we will close on the easement with LRCT. Then the deed will have to be recorded.

2) Trail Progress

- Steve found out over the winter that we needed a trail permit. He submitted an application for the permit to the Selectmen, they signed it and should have been submitted to the DES on Friday. He said that he had to change some of the design for the trail per the permit regulations. Stephen has agreed to help work on the invasive weed situation in the gravel pit area. He put together a map of the area. Steve said he will be putting together a list of contractors for the weed control for next year. We will have to include this in our budget.

b) Budget Review

- Kate stated that the budget had not changed much from the last meeting. Steve said that the Conservation Fund had picked up some funds. He explained the difference between the Conservation Fund and the Budget for the TCC. The budget is voted on each year.

III) Status of NH DES Dredge & Fill Applications

- See attached

IV) Correspondence

- Letter from the NHDES thanking conservation commissions for their work in protecting aquatic resources while balancing business interests and economic development. Included with the letter was a manual “Wetlands Best Management Practice Techniques for Avoidance and Minimization”.

V) Old Business

a) Mirror Lake Conservation

- Steve gave a brief overview of the process thus far on the easement progress on the Lachner property for our visitor. The landowners had asked for advice as to how they should proceed. The LCHIP Grant application deadline was last Friday. At this point it looks like the NRCS would be the best avenue to take for the town and landowner. This is entirely up to the landowners and they will make that decision. Stephen asked about the ownership period waiver. Steve said that is the hurdle that we have to get over next. If NRCS wants to go thru with the easement as proposed, they will have to waive the two-year prior ownership requirement. This is decided at another office at the State level. Larry asked about the landowners wanting to sub-divide. Steve said this is not something we have any control over. NRCS will decide if they want to hold the easement on the property available after the subdivisions. If we were purchasing the easement, we would have the same decision. We don't have a role in approving the subdivision only, to purchase an easement on the remaining area. Larry wondered if this may contribute to the phosphorous load in to Mirror Lake. Steve said that if the development is done properly, it should not. The Lachners will still need to work with the Selectmen on using the class 6 road. Larry said that there has not been a lot of discussion within the Mirror Lake Protective Assoc. He wants to make sure that the MLPA understands what this easement will involve. Mike said that this will take a while, it will not happen right away. Steve said that nothing has been laid out yet, but we will be monitoring. If we were applying for the grants, we would have had to include this information in the application. Mike asked if the landowners had asked us for advice. Steve said yes, they had, and we gave them the pros and cons for each approach.

b) Nineteen Mile Brook Study

- Steve said that he is not aware of anything new with the study. However, there is a new situation on the brook. Larry visited the area and found a great deal of erosion around a new snowmobile bridge. Steve met with the officers of the Snowmobile Club. They walked the area. Steve felt that the bridge and trail is not impacting the brook at this time. Most of the current erosion is a result of drainage from Rt. 109A. However, there is a lot of water coming from the Whitten Trust property. If you look past the snowmobile trail there is a large open area with a raw soil surface pitching toward the trail. There is probably 2 ½ or 3 acres of impervious surface and it is shedding a lot of water

towards route 109. It's being called a log landing, but it is more like a sand pit. Since the access trail and bridge was built the Whitten Trust has built an access road over the old snowmobile trail and put in a culvert. The water that is shedding off of the open area is concentrated through the culvert and has started an erosion gully on the inside of the snowmobile trail leading to the bridge. If this is left unchecked the runoff will make its way to the brook. The Snowmobile Club is contacting their contractor who built the bridge to see if they can help with the erosion problem. Steve explained this situation is a bit more complicated, as they are several landowners involved.

c) Well Water Testing

- Laurel said that she distributed the water testing kits to the ones that had wanted one. There are more in the Conservation room if someone wants one.

d) TCC Safety Vests

- The vests are here, and they are in the Conservation room.

e) Cheney Farm

- Steve said the farm has been purchased by Avery and Elizabeth Woodworth. They have a farm in Massachusetts and want to retire up here. Avery is a contractor and is involved with restoring historic homes. They are very excited about restoring the farm. Their son has an agricultural education and will be running the farm. Steve asked them if they would be willing to participate in writing an article about the history and what they would like to see happen to the farm to inform the public. Stephen Scapicchio volunteered to work on this project.

f) Watershed

- Steve said there is progress on the watershed plan. There were three high priority sites identified and remediation plans are being developed. These plans will need some details adjusted before implementation. Mike asked what they were going to do. Steve said that they are going to complete the plan.

VI) New Business

a) Copps Pond Sign

- Stephen said he has completed a draft for the sign and Kate did a great job editing so the words flow nicely. Steve said that they had built a bridge last year as a demonstration for the GM trail. It was deemed to be too narrow. Stephen and Steve are going to carry it out and install it at a wet spot on the access trail to Copps Pond.

b) TCC Membership Terms Renewal & Recruits

- Steve asked Heather if she was still interested in becoming an Alternate Member of the TCC. She stated that she did want to be a member. Kate moved that we add Heather Brown as an Alternate Member, Larry seconded. Roll call as follows: Steve – yes, Stephen-yes, Mark-yes, Laurel-yes, Kate-yes, Mike-yes, Larry-yes.

c) Other Business

- Steve asked if there was any other business. Larry said that he saw in the newspaper that the Selectmen received the report from Clay Gallagher saying that Santac had done the sampling and was interested in submitting a proposal for a 3yr contract at the old land fill site. Are the Selectmen going to be looking for other bids on the project? Steve said that the last he heard the Selectmen went with a 1year contract this year so they could spend more time working on a long-term contract for the future. Larry said that the article made it sound like Clay and Santac were moving ahead on a contract. Steve said he would check with the Selectmen.
Larry asked what was going on with Gary Chahames and Nineteen Mile Brook. Steve said the selectmen are planning to organize a “Nineteen Mile Brook Committee as suggested by Gary. He was asked by one of the Selectman if he and Larry might be interested in being on a committee to look into the Nineteen Mile Brook and the RIB. Steve said, he told him they would.

With there being no further business Mike moved to adjourn the meeting, Kate seconded. Roll call as follows: Steve-yes, Stephen-yes, Mark-yes, Laurel-yes, Kate-yes, Mike-yes, Larry-yes.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Administrative Secretary
Linda Bean

STATUS OF DES APPLICATIONS
05/18/20

1. Taylor Rev Trust, Kristin C Taylor

4 Flint Dr, MAP 14-1-1

State received the additional information that was requested (see 03/16/20 minutes). Purpose is to install a seasonal dock, will be built off site in pre-fabricated sections. The deck of dock will be wooden and removed from water by hand at the end of each season. Inspected by Kate Nesbit with no objections. State has issued permit.

2. Mark Murphy Rev Trust

One Helen Island, MAP 26-1-55

Purpose of application is to install a perched beach and permanent dock (see 03/16/20 minutes). Mark inspected and had no objections. State has issued permit.

3. George Defelice

5 Little Bear Island, MAP 11-1-4

State issued permit to improve 473 sq ft of walkway.

4. Ann Swain

28 Senter Cove Rd, MAP 2-1-55

State received requested information from Folsom Design to provide a 4' x 40' seasonal dock. Mike inspected. Application was approved by the State.

5. Barvel Whang

Rte 109, Sandy Shores, MAP 14-3-46

Purpose is to dredge 793 cubic yards of material from 9989 sq ft of lakebed to restore water depth. State has reviewed and issued permit.

6. Paul Remus

94 Cow Island, MAP 38-1-244

State reviewed and issued permit to replace existing piling piers.

7. Jean Franchi 2003 Trust

22 Senter Cove Rd, MAP 2-1-58

Repair existing permanent dock in-kind. Sent to the State.

8. Lanes End Marina

Lanes End Rd. Map 2-1-71

State received revised plans to replace and repair multiple piers and pilings. State approved application.

9. Carol & John Haran

9 Westwood Bay, MAP 40-5-4

Purpose is to repair a grandfathered dock and stairs. No change in size, location or configuration. State received application and is reviewing.