

TOWN OF TUFTONBORO CONSERVATION COMMISSION

August 19, 2019

Members Present: Chairman Steve Wingate, Vice Chairman Mike Phelps, Members; Laurel Podsen, Kathy Murphy and Selectmen's Representative Lloyd Wood

Members Absent: Members; Larry Gil, Mark Howard, Kate Nesbit; **Alternate;** Ray Everest

Staff Present: Linda Bean, Administrative Secretary

Steve Wingate opened meeting at 6:30 PM

I. Consideration of Minutes

- **July 15, 2019**

Mike Phelps moved to accept the minutes as written, Kathy Murphy seconded motion, all were in favor.

II. Discussion Items

a. Great Meadow

- **Grant Process**

Steve Wingate stated that we are now waiting for LRCT approval the final draft of the easement from LCHIP. New language has been introduced since our last meeting and will have to be approved before finalizing. Once this last step is final it will take at least four weeks before a check will be released to the TCC.

- **Boundary Marking**

Steve Wingate, Rick Van de Poll and Leah Hart of LRCT, plus four Ameri Corps volunteers walked and painted the dry land boundaries of the Sargent and Phelps Lots. Lloyd Wood suggested sending letters to all of the volunteers thanking them for their help with this project.

- **Trail Progress – CIP Option**

Steve said that there were two volunteers, two TA members and two TCC members that showed up for the review options for the GM trail. One good trail possibility ran close to an adjacent property. Steve had spoken with a property owner a couple of years ago and they were concerned about people coming too close to their property. Steve will reach out and try to walk the trail with the owners. Steve stated that it is important to be a good neighbor. The design for the observation platform has not yet been decided. Steve also sent some pictures to the members, of wood walks, bridges etc. that he had built as examples of what they could use. Steve showed the members where the premier location for the observation platform would be on the map.

Members discussed putting a gate of some sort across the entrance to the trails. Lloyd Wood suggested several different types of gates but no decision was made. The TCC still has to decide where to locate the Kiosk.

- **Tuftonboro Association Support**

Steve said that the TA gave the TCC \$6000 for the parking lot and there is still \$1200 available. Their fund raising was very good, they raised approximately, another \$6000.

- **Publicity**

Steve said that he met with a reporter from the Laker Newspaper. There will be an article on the work that the TCC has been doing on the GM project. This should appear in the next issue. Ray Everest has been promoting this also on Facebook.

- **Invasive Weed Control**

Steve told everyone that the old "Stump Dump" is inundated with invasive plants. Lloyd Wood stated that the road agent has been primarily responsible for the spraying of invasive plants. He suggested that maybe it would be better if the TCC looked for a contractor better equipped for this remote work. Steve said that it would be something to consider in next year's budget.

- **Land Bank**

Steve reminded the TCC that they had agreed to hold the easement on the Mt. Pleasant property. LRCT has signed a purchase and sale agreement with the owners, that is contingent on financing. They are applying for LCHIP funding which will probably be next spring. If the grant is approved, they will start a fund-raising campaign.

b. Budget Process

- **Input from Members**

Steve was hoping more members would be present at this meeting to throw ideas out for next year's budget. Our budget will be due mid-September. Steve will contact those who are not present and ask them to submit their ideas by e-mail before our next meeting. Steve felt that we should budget for the invasive weed control at the old gravel pit, near the proposed GM trail. He suggested that he and Rick Van de Poll could work on possibly two easements that are connected with the GM. We also can request funding for Rick Van de Poll to write grant requests for the Hersey property for Mirror Lake Conservation.

Kathleen Murphy wanted to know if we have a budget for TCC members to attend educational programs. Steve explained how we budget and cover those opportunities. He felt that the budget seemed adequate for the past few years but we can always adjust it if we know of programs in advance.

Lloyd Wood brought up a problem with the trails on the Gould property. There are “blow downs” along the trails hampering use of the trails. Steve stated that the Parks and Rec Department had previously been the stewards of that trail. Steve said the Gould property may be a good candidate for a Town Forest and would need a Forest Plan. Matt Young had previously suggested that this be done on some of the town owned property. This may be a good way to educate the public on proper and sustainable timber and wildlife management. In that case it could make sense for the TCC to be responsible for the trails.

- **Submission Schedule**

Steve stated that we should have a budget draft approved by the commission, for submission, after our next meeting on 9/16.

c. Mirror Lake Cyanobacteria Bloom

- The following announcement was issued by NHDES.

Concord, NH – The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES) has REMOVED a cyanobacteria advisory for Mirror Lake issued on 8/7/2019. There is still a presence of cyanobacteria species. However, water near the main beach and boat ramp appeared clear and the bloom has mostly dissipated from what we could see as of 8/19. The cell concentrations at the beach were only 300 cells/ml of *Woronichinia*. Concentrations were slightly higher and diverse at the boat ramp where the bloom was initially most severe. Cell counts from samples on 8/19 were only 1,675 cells/ml of *Microcystis* and two varieties of *Anabaena/Dolichospermum*. Please continue to monitor your individual shoreline for changing conditions.

It was found at the outlet of Winter Harbor but was not found in Winter Harbor. It remains a concern and will be monitored.

III. Status of NH Dredge & Fill Application

1. Winmiir Condo Assoc

68 Gov Wentworth Hwy MAP 51-1-9

Dredge 66 cu yds from 2350 sq ft of lake bed adjacent to major docking system & attach 30 linear ft of skirting to docking system to create a barrier to sand migration, state approved application

2. Alfred Lilly

Cow Island MAP 37-1-9

Relocate existing 5’11”x32’ pier, state reviewed and approved

3. Ann Santo/Nancy Dimarino

Basin Dr MAP 51-2-15

On 05/17/19 state requested more info on their application, as of 07/14/19 the state has not received it, state denied application.

4. Red Gate Colony Club

Red Gate Lane MAP 40-5-2

Maintain existing major docking facility and add 2 (3) piling ice clusters, state received and accepted this application not a permit

5. Nancy Ferraro

36 Boycroft Rd MAP 62-3-2

Convert existing sloped beach into a perched beach by constructing a retaining wall behind the Lake Winnepesaukee full lake reference line

6. Hibernia Kalamata Rev Tr

Basin Rd MAP 5-2-8

Construct 3’x7’ concrete pad along shoreline as an anchor point for 6’x40’ pier, state recd application

7. Hidden Valley Assoc

Hidden Valley Rd MAP 69-2-5 & 9

We received a letter from White Mountain Survey regarding the application to construct a plunge pool at the discharge of an existing culvert, stating that the applicant has withdrawn the application.

IV. Correspondence

- **45 Canaan Road MAP 46-2-15**

Steve read a letter that the TCC received from Jacob Evans regarding a piece of property that has come on the market on Canaan Road. Mr. Evans expressed an interest in helping the TCC purchase this property as a conservation effort. The land is not adjacent to anything that is currently conserved and is some distance from Melvin Pond. At this time, this 12 acre parcel does not meet our criteria for acquisition. We have many other projects in progress, some that have been in motion for over a year. After much discussion the board has decided not to pursue the purchase of this land.

Kathy Murphy moved that we write a letter to Jacob Evans explaining our decision, Laurel Podsen seconded, all were in favor

- **Septic Sense**

Steve brought to our attention that the Lake Winnepesaukee Assoc is presenting “Septic Sense – What Homeowners need to know” workshop, on August 27, 2019. The meeting will be held at the Tuftonboro Fire Rescue Department in Tuftonboro, NH from 6:30pm to 8pm. Pre-registration is requested by phone 581-6632 or email mail@winnepesaukee.org.

V. Old Business

- **Nineteen Mile Brook Study**

Steve said that they have been sampling is still in progress and Larry Gil is monitoring their work. A report is expected by the end of the year.

- **Watershed Plan Progress**

Steve said that every property along the shoreline Tuftonboro has been surveyed and is now complete. Each property has been rated for risk factors.

- **Mirror Lake Conservation Plan**

Steve reminded the commission that they previously voted to assist the Mirror Lake Protective Assn. Conservation Committee in developing a Conservation Plan and conserving properties within the ML watershed. Larry and Steve have been attending their meetings. A key property on the east end where much of the inflow occurs is for sale. On our recommendation the MLPA hired Rick Van de Poll to conduct an environmental survey of the 110-acre property and submit a report. This has been completed. The Committee chairman is planning to meet with Rick Sager, the probate attorney to see if a conservation easement could be purchased. Steve is recommending that we budget funds to have Rick V. assemble a grant request for LCHIP funding and that we would be the likely easement holder.

Kathy Murphy moved that we include in next years budget to pay Rick Van de Poll for his time on this project, Laurel Podsen seconded, all were in favor

- **Old Home Days – Scavenger Hunt**

Laurel Podsen expressed concerned about the trail condition. Some clean-up is needed for fallen limbs etc. She would like about four people to help on the trails for the scavenger hunt. Steve, Mike, Ann Vinnicombe, Kathy and Ian Witmore will be helping. Steve asked about the handouts. Laurel said that Ann would be contacting Steve. Steve said that the secretary could help with the printing of the handouts.

- **Facebook Page**

Ray is still keeping the TCC Facebook page up to date.

VI. New Business

- **Trail at Central School**

Laurel Podsen is hoping to come up with a plan to remark the trees along the trail as the paint has faded. This should not take long. Steve said the TCC could have a workday to help out. There was also an outdoor classroom area that she would like to clean up and make it assessable to the teachers. Steve will try to contact the Boy Scouts to see if they could help with these projects.

- **Copp's Pond Viewing Platform**

Steve said that the TCC was made aware last fall that the platform was falling apart. He knows of some people that may be able to help with this project this fall. He said that about \$200 would probably buy the materials. Lloyd wanted to know if they could use a trailer for the materials. He would be willing to pick-up lumber and ask if the lumber yard would be willing to donate the wood. He also offered to haul the debris to the Transfer Station.

- **Mike Carleton MAP 32-2-5**

Steve reminded us that Mike Carleton had sent a letter to TCC on June 28, 2019 to inform us that a parcel of land that he owns was for sale. He was interested in selling the back portion of that lot which includes a groundwater easement area and is part of the Great Meadow. This is about 12+/- acres. Lloyd suggested that Steve compose a memorandum to submit to the Selectmen for joint action on this offer.

Kathy Murphy moved that Steve should submit memo to the Selectmen, Laurel Podsen seconded, all were in favor.

Mike Phelps moved to adjourn the 08/19/2019 meeting of the Tuftonboro Conservation Meeting, Kathy Murphy seconded; all were in favor.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Administrative Secretary
Linda Bean