

**TOWN OF TUFTONBORO
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**
240 Middle Road
Center Tuftonboro, NH 03816

**MEETING MINUTES
January 14, 2021**

Due to COVID-19, the 1/14/2021 meeting was held virtually via GoToMeeting.

Present: Chairman Steve Wingate, Vice Chairman Stephen Scapicchio, Members Larry Gil, Heather Brown, Laurel Podsen, Kate Nesbit, Mark Howard

Guests Present: FB Environmental Associates representatives Margaret Mill, Laura Diemer, Forrest Bell

Chairman Steve Wingate called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m.

I. Nineteen Mile Brook Monitoring Plan Background

a. Brief history of the Wolfeboro RIB and TCC involvement

Chairman Wingate asked if anyone had questions from reading the written history provided prior to meeting. No questions were asked. Chairman Wingate briefly reviewed history: The way the Town of Wolfeboro handled treating their effluent, which met DES standards, was to spray it onto approximately 125-acres near the Abenaki complex which included parts of the Mirror Lake watershed and the Back Bay watershed. The nutrients that ran off of this was polluting both Mirror Lake and Back Bay. Back Bay was the only spot which DES recognized came from their spray field and confirmed it was a permit violation. This went on for over ten years and DES came up with RIB idea.

b. Summary of events leading to a proposal to develop a monitoring plan

Chairman Wingate asked if anyone had questions. No questions were asked.

II. Presentation of the Monitoring Plan as Developed by FBE – Margaret Mills

Maggie confirmed TCC members received FBE's memorandum outlining a three-year monitoring plan for Nineteen Mile Brook. Maggie was joined by the owner of FBE and her supervisor Forrest Bell and her colleague Laura Diem who is the environmental lead in their Dover, NH office.

Maggie stated they suggested a 3-year monitoring plan which is limited to just the surface water sampling of Nineteen Mile Brook with the understanding that it is part of the larger effort to look at the local ecology and ground water resources of the area.

II. Presentation of the Monitoring Plan as Developed by FBE – Margaret Mills
(Continued)

Maggie stated FBE is here to provide their unbiased scientific recommendation and that they recognize and respect the knowledge and understanding of the TCC members and hope to get feedback and insights since members clearly have a deep understanding and history with this site.

Maggie reviewed FBEs recommendations of their data analysis report in detail.

a. Questions about the proposed plan and/or questions

Maggie of FBE then took questions from TCC members. Questions and discussions followed.

b. Need for a strategy for moving forward

c. Proposed plan vs. budget conflicts

Chairman Wingate, L. Gil along with Maggie and TCC members discussed ways to cut some costs, i.e., grants, utilize UNH testing, appoint the help of grad student, etc. amongst other ideas. Chairman Wingate stated that the Town of Wolfeboro budgeted \$150,000 over three years for this project which includes storm water management, reforestation and a wildlife plan. Within that, \$25,000 per year is allocated for additional monitoring, FBE's cost estimation is higher than that. Discussion followed on additional ideas for cost reduction, i.e., identify redundancy at flow monitoring sites, sampling could be reduced to six times annually versus eight.

III. Adopting the Monitoring Plan

a. Current proposed plan or an alternative?

- i. What are the alternatives? Chairman Wingate said, the TCC could negotiate with Dave Ford and implement some of the possible suggestions by Maggie to meet Dave's budget limit or stand on the Monitoring as presented and ask Dave to find a way to finance it.

Chairman S. Wingate made a Motion to accept the FBE proposal as presented; Vice Chairman Steve Scapicchio seconded. A roll call vote followed; all were in favor. Unanimous 7-0.

b. Working with the Selectmen

Chairman Wingate stated that TCC was tasked by the Selectmen to discover any legal implications the Town may have even though this is not a contractual agreement with the Town of Wolfeboro.

c. Legal opinion

Chairman Wingate contacted Tuftonboro town attorney Rick Sager and supplied him with all pertinent information. Chairman Wingate and Vice Chairman

Legal opinion (Continued)

Scapicchio will conference with him if necessary and ask that he write his opinion to the Selectmen. Rick Sager will keep TCC informed.

d. Commission strategy

Kate Nesbit made a Motion to allow Chairman Wingate and Vice Chairman Scapicchio to negotiate with Dave Ford, if necessary, the cost of the plan should the \$150,000 not be adequate. A roll call vote followed; all were in favor. Unanimous 7-0.

There being no further business, Ms. Nesbit moved to adjourn the 01/14/21 TCC meeting, Chairman Wingate seconded. A roll call vote followed; all were in favor. Unanimous 7-0. Meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by Jane Lemire, Tuftonboro Conservation Commission Secretary
January 18, 2021*