

TOWN OF TUFTONBORO
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 21, 2022

Present: Chairman Stephen Scapicchio, Vice Chairman Steven Wingate. Members: Larry Gil, Selectman Guy Pike, Laurel Podsen, Lynne Walsh. *Staff*: Jane Lemire.

Absent: Heather Brown, Mark Howard, Kate Nesbit, Michael Phelps.

Call to Order: Chairman Scapicchio called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

I. Consideration of Minutes

A. October 17, 2022

A motion to accept the Minutes of October 17, 2022 as presented but with an addition to V. Old Business; A. Nineteen Mile Brook Monitoring of one sentence to be inserted at the end of the paragraph was made by Ms. Walsh and seconded by Selectman Pike. All in favor; motion passed unanimous.

II. Discussion Items

A. Budget Update

Chairman Scapicchio reported that he met with the BOS to present the 2023 budget, which they approved at their November 8th meeting. He is yet to meet with the Budget Committee but will be doing so in December. Other than the addition of two new line items, the budget remains like 2022. The two new line items are \$2,000.00 for invasive species removal and reintroducing local vegetation and \$2,000.00 for a forestry plan for the Sargent Phelps lot which has the probability to become a valuable wood lot in the future. Afterwards in the following two years adding \$8,000.00 to the budget would be to move ahead with the forestry plan, however, it will be asked of the voters who can decide if they want to move forward.

III. Status of Dredge & Fill Applications

The status of permit applications was reported by Jane Lemire.

IV. Correspondence

None

V. Old Business

A. Nineteen Mile Brook Monitoring

Mr. Gil stated he was unable to attend the last sampling on November 8th with FB Environmental due to a prior commitment. Luke Frankel stated that all went well with the sampling and that he took flow measurements as well as collect all the loggers/meters for the season. He looked at the beaver dam and believes all the beavers were successfully trapped. An opening in the dam was created to allow water to pass through.

B. Great Meadow Trail Progress

Chairman Scapicchio reported that the viewing station is now completed. He thanked Vice Chairman Wingate for the work he did on the project while he was away. The viewing station stands at 7.5' height to showcase views of the Great Meadow and of the Melvin River. Chairman Scapicchio also stated he ordered the storyboard and map for the kiosk and that it will be installed soon.

C. Forest Plans

Vice Chairman Wingate stated that the forestry goal for next year will be timberland improvement of valuable trees.

D. Water Testing

Ms. Podsen stated that the gathering of email addresses to send reminders to those who took well water testing kits worked well as everyone returned them for testing. The group discussed the idea of offering free well water testing to families that may be unable to afford it. How to locate families in need was discussed.

VI. New Business

A. MMRG Conservation Mixer – 2/4/2023, 1-3pm

Chairman Scapicchio stated that Veronica Bodge confirmed that there will be a conservation mixer to be held on February 4, 2023 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at the Old Town Hall, 200 Kings Highway in Middleton for area conservation commissions, i.e., Milton, Wakefield, New Durham, etc. Chairman Scapicchio and Vice Chairman Wingate were asked to give a presentation on Great Meadow, which they agreed to do.

B. New Resident Pamphlet

Ms. Walsh passed out a draft pamphlet that she put together regarding wells and septic systems for new neighbors. Her thought is that the pamphlet provides those not familiar with these two segments of rural living with some information on what may be unfamiliar to them. Ms. Walsh will continue her work on the pamphlet and will have another draft ready at the next Conservation meeting.

C. Other

Vice Chairman Wingate reminded those who did not attend the Winnepesaukee Annual Meeting that a recording is available if they are interested. It reviews all plans happening around Lake Winnepesaukee.

VII. Non-Public Session

None.

Adjourn: There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Mr. Gil and seconded by Selectman Pike. Motion passed unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by Jane Lemire, Tuftonboro Conservation Commission Secretary
November 28, 2022*