

TOWN OF TUFTONBORO
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

March 18, 2019

MINUTES

Members present: Chairman Steve Wingate, Members Larry Gill, Ray Everest, Kathleen Murphy, Mark Howard and Kate Nesbit, Alternate Member Laurel Podsen, Selectman's Representative Lloyd Wood

Members Absent: Vice Chairman Mike Phelps

Staff Present; Linda Bean, Administrative Secretary

Chairman Wingate opened the meeting at 6.33 PM.

1. Consideration of Minutes

The following corrections were made to the February 18, 2019 minutes: Under C) Great Meadow, third sentence is stricken and "Lakes Region Conservation Trust will eventually hold conservation easements on the property" replaces it.

It was moved by Kate Nesbit and seconded by Larry Gil to approve the February 18, 2018 TCC minutes with corrections.

II. Discussion Items

a. Land Use Change Tax Warrant

Steve Wingate stated that the LUCT warrant article passed at the town meeting with a strong vote.

b. Great Meadow

• Trail

Ray Everest presented a temporary sign for the kiosk at the future parking area of the Great Meadow. He and Steve Wingate did a preliminary walk of the area which was limited due to snow amounts. Ray thinks the parking area could be done in the late fall of this year. He is in the process of getting 2 or 3 more bids. Steve Wingate made basic maps to better show what the town actually owns in the Great Meadow. He will be working on a better presentation for the public. Ray Everest stated he is working on compiling the history of the Great Meadow.

• Acquisition Progress

Steve Wingate stated that the acquisition process started with Tuftonboro Conservation Commission backing around 2000. TCC hired Rick Van de Poll to do an environmental study of the Great Meadow and write a report. This was done with the help of LCHIP Funding at the time. There will be a required public hearing with the Selectmen on April 8, 2019 to except the grant funds. Steve Wingate sent in paperwork today to receive the ARM fund money, which has been preapproved. This has to go through the Governor and the Governor's Council which takes 3 or 4 weeks. Rick Van de Poll is working on the last requirement to receive the LCHIP Funds. A new survey was required and the estimate was \$10,000. TCC paid a retainer of \$5,000. We now have a bill for \$4,846 which has to be paid from the Conservation Fund. ***Due to difficult issues, we were informed that an additional \$2000 would be needed to complete the establishment of the monuments.***

Larry Gil moved to pay from the TCC Fund, Kate Nesbit seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

• Celebration

Steve Wingate suggested a celebration of the acquisition of the Great Meadow land. Lloyd Wood suggested Old Home Day. Steve and Ray Everest felt it should be sooner in the season. Ray Everest offered to help organizing event along with Laurel. Lloyd Wood stated that he and Mark Howard would work on finding providers of food. Mark Howard offered to make contact phone calls.

• Budget Update

Kate Nesbit reviewed the updated budget with the members. Members discussed money spent on the acquisition of land, testing of water and administration costs.

• Bio Blitz

Steve Wingate asked if anyone would be interested in participating in a Bio Blitz. The UNH Coop Extension Is heading up training to do a biological inventory on town owned property. This would give the Commission a lot of information about these areas. Kathleen Murphy was thinking that maybe it would be good for the TCC to

participate in the training this year and actually put it into place next year. Lloyd Wood also suggested this be blended into the school system to give children a chance to participate in conservation activities

- Easement Monitoring

Steve Wingate stated that he discovered that the easement on the town owned Bentley property, is located on both sides of the road and all around the brick house. The TCC will have to do an inspection and Monitoring Report for the west side. Steve will need to contact the current owner in order to provide information regarding the easement. Kate Nesbit said she would do a little investigating to locate the easement paperwork. Steve is very happy to have Leah Hart helping with the monitoring. Kate also said that Seth *Kassels*, Co-Director of Camp Belknap, would be providing a list of easements they have with SPNHF. Kate Nesbit has been working on locating all the easements from other holders. Kathleen Murphy also offered a scanner to help with the collection of documents.

III. Status of NH Dredge & Fill Applications

- Richard Navarro

23 Tuftonboro Neck Rd, Tax Map 51 Lot 38

N H DES received and accepted an application for a permit for impacts to a jurisdictional wetland at the subject property.

Letter is not a permit or authorization to begin work. Ray Everest reviewed. ●

Bente/Crafg Starble

15 Winn-Shores Rd, Tax Map 40, Lot 16, Block 3

NH DES received and accepted an application for a permit for impacts to a jurisdictional wetland at the subject property.

Letter is not a permit or authorization to begin work. Steve Wingate reviewed. ●

Hidden Valley Property Owners Assoc

Hidden Valley Rd, Center Tuftonboro, Tax Map 69, Lot 5 & 19, Block 2

N H DES received and accepted an application for a permit for impacts to a jurisdictional wetland at the subject property.

Letter is not a permit or authorization to begin work. Larry Gil reviewed.

- Bald Peak Land Co., Inc

177 Beach Rd, Tax Map 2, Block 1, Lot 8

Project proposes sand replenishment of an existing staff beach. No inspection was required. ●

Robert Thomas

46 Cow Island, Map 38, Block 1, Lot 19

Conservation Commission approved application to remove an existing 6 ft x 30 ft piling dock along with two added 6 ft x 8 ft seasonal dock sections which will be replaced. Larry Gil reviewed.

- Glenn & Colleen Raiche

37 Cow Island, Tax Map 38, Block 1, Lot 43 & 44

Conservation Comm has deferred this application to the Wetlands Bureau. Steve Wingate reviewed.

IV. Correspondence

- Excavation permits

Five applications are being reviewed by the Planning Board and are notifications only to the Conservation Commission. The Planning Board was required to notify us. There will be a Planning Board Meeting on Thursday, March 21 at the Town Offices.

- Tin Mountain Conservation, March 26 with a snow date April 29

Workshop will be about flood resilience, infrastructure protection, and managing Aquatic Resources. Steve Wingate gave some hand-outs to the members.

- Moose Mountain Greenland Land Trust on March 21

They will be running a workshop on the Northern Eastern Coyote.

- Survey Map of Cow Island

Lloyd Wood offered to look into copies for the members.

V. Old Business

- Water & Watershed Conference
Steve Wingate and Larry Gil attended the Water & Watershed Conference. Larry stated that there was a lot of information. He explained problems relating to low oxygen levels in deep portions of a water body. Steve Wingate tried to summarize one item that caught his attention. This would be stored phosphorous in lake bottoms that can come back into the solution and cause cyanobacteria blooms.
- Moultonborough Bay Watershed Plan
Steve Wingate provided an update on the Moultonborough Bay Watershed Plan effort, that we sponsored, is currently in progress. Lake Winnepesaukee Assn. who manages the program has fired the contractor doing the work for not meeting the work schedule and meeting quality standards. A new firm FB Environmental has agreed to take over. They have an excellent track record and plan to get started soon.
- Arsenic Consortium March 20
Laurel Podsen, Steve Wingate and Larry Gil are a few of the members that will be attending this workshop.
- 19 Mile Brook Study
Larry Gil will oversee the study on the 19 Mile Brook.
- Federal Tax Deduction
Steve Wingate stated that Congress has passed a bill that makes the incentive deduction for Conservation Easements permanent. This removes the requirement for the bill to be reviewed yearly. Lloyd Wood will be putting a summary of this bill on the town website.
- Mirror Lake Volunteer Lake Assessment Program
Larry Gil spoke with Bob Craycraft regarding equipment that the volunteers have and whether any of it needs refurbishing.

V. New Business

- Blue Bird Houses
Steve Wingate said he supplied some lumber for a group of volunteers that built some birdhouses for AG Comm. There are extras we could place. Lloyd Wood wondered if there would be any areas around the school that some of these might be located. Kathleen Murphy was thinking that these houses could be used in an educational workshop.
Steve agreed to provide the bird houses for the school program.
- 4106 Saving Special Places
Members decided what workshops they will attend.
- Education
Kathleen Murphy informed the commission that she and Laurel are working on a program that would involve the children at the school. A more in-depth description of this effort is attached to the minutes.

It was moved by Mark Howard and seconded by Kate Nesbit to adjourn the March 18, 2019 Tuftonboro Conservation Commission meeting. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 8.31 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Bean

On 2/20/19 I attended an online information session on School Yard Sites, a UNH Cooperative Extension program which 'partners Extension volunteers with teachers to explore, develop, and implement citizen science projects that relate to New Hampshire's natural world'.

This is a research study that is looking at a 3-tier volunteer model (volunteer, teacher, Extension professional) new this school year which seeks to measure improvement in teacher confidence and instructional effectiveness.

The program will be open to Carroll and Coos County educators for the 2020-2021 school year with a competitive application procedure. This year's applications were due March 15th so we can expect a similar timeline for Tuftonboro educators in 2020.

To be eligible to apply educators must already have 3 years classroom experience, be teaching in grades 2-5 and provide a letter of support from their building's principal. Other requirements include attendance at 9 workshops throughout the school year and to design and teach a citizen science project. The program begins in the summer prior to the school year with required workshops. There is a stipend paid to the teachers up to a maximum of \$2000.

School Yard Sites volunteers are required to be UNH Extension volunteers and the Lakes Lay Monitoring Program for which Steve offered to train me and Laurel will count toward this requirement. They are required to attend 6 days of training, participate in surveys and interviews as part of the research project, successfully complete child safety online training and a background check. Volunteers will also receive a stipend (\$500)

Each program is tailored to the school, the curriculum for the grade, the site, the teacher and the volunteer and is guided and supported by UNH/Extension resources.

Tuftonboro Central School/Conservation Commission Partnership

Ryan Gilpatrick, Tuftonboro Central School principal, and I met on 3/15 to discuss the School Yard Sites program and an interim path to forging a relationship between the school and the Conservation Commission.

He is open to our developing a program/relationship and invited us to participate in the Earth Day Assembly on 4/19 where each student will get a sapling to take home. Laurel will develop the presentation/activity for that day and she and I will deliver that presentation or activity. She and I will provide each teacher our contact info and leave behind a reply card for each individual to indicate his/her level of interest in working with us.

I have asked Megan Glenn of UNH to reach out to Ryan Gilpatrick about the School Yard Sites Program and to keep me apprised of her progress, stating I'd like to attend if she does an on-site presentation.

I will make contact with Katie Hill at the SAU regarding the curriculum for meaningful touch points.