

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

MEETING MINUTES
August 16, 2021

Present: Chairman Stephen Scapicchio, Vice Chairman Steven Wingate. Members: Heather Brown, Mark Howard, Alternate Michael Phelps, Laurel Podsen, Lynne Walsh

Absent: Members: Larry Gil, Kate Nesbit, Selectmen's Rep Guy Pike

Staff: Jane Lemire

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

I. Consideration of Minutes

a. July 19, 2021

A motion to accept the Minutes of 7/19/21 as presented was made and seconded. Motion passed unanimous.

II. Discussion Items

A. Bike Trail

Dennis Zilembo of Parks & Rec was unable to attend tonight's meeting but reported to Chairman Scapicchio that there hasn't been any new progress. Plans to apply for multiple grants and fundraise are the next steps. Mr. Zilembo will meet with TCC at a future date.

B. Whortleberry Island

a. Lots 16 – 19

There was an inquiry from a potential buyer asking why two of the four lots are priced lower than the other two. Jack Parsons spoke with him and let him know it was all wetland property and not buildable.

b. Resident interested in conservation easement

Chairman Scapicchio spoke with a resident who owns a cottage with two additional lots abutting the property who is considering easements for those two lots and was looking for information.

C. Mirror Lake Protective Association

Chairman Scapicchio who serves on MLPA board reported he attended the association's most recent meeting on Saturday, 8/14. He stated that one item of discussion was to reach out to all households on Mirror Lake to encourage membership. Also discussed recent Cyanobacteria Outbreak, Lachner land easement and report on additional potential easements based on report by Rick Van de Pol.

D. Other Boards/Organization Updates

- Chairman Scapicchio reported on behalf of Kate Nesbit due to her absence and stated that the Lawall easement is progressing and the legal document should be signed within two months. Third planning board meeting regarding the cell phone towers will be Thursday, 8/19/2021
- Mark Howard reported on ZBA Board of Adjustment. There was discussion on multiple island and area developments.
- Lynne Walsh reported that the Historical Society is looking for a curator. The Historical Society functions mainly in the summer months in the relocated Melvin Village schoolhouse. Two days a week it is open from 2:00-4:00 pm and on Saturday from 10:00 am -1:00 pm.
- Vice Chairman Wingate reported on the Wolfeboro/Tuftonboro Land Bank and their desire to expand their volunteer base with more diverse and younger individuals who have conservation experience. This fully volunteer organization meets the third Monday of each month from 4:00-5:00 pm and supports conservation as well as other projects. The group would like to elect a vice chairman who can run the monthly meetings during the winter months when the chairman is away.

III. **Status of Dredge & Fill Applications**

The most recent applications and status of others was reported.

IV. **Correspondence**

- A thank you letter was received from Lake Winnepesaukee Association for TCC's membership renewal.

V. **Old Business**

A. Nineteen Mile Brook Monitoring

Due to Larry Gil's absence, there was no new reporting; this will be put on next month's agenda.

B. Great Meadow Trail Progress

Chairman Scapicchio reported that another boardwalk has been completed. Remaining to complete are two more boardwalks and one bridge with a viewing platform. One kiosk is finished and the second one is almost complete. To progress to Phase II there was discussion on how to raise funds.

A motion to seek out grants to help build Phase II of the Great Meadow trail was made and seconded. Motion passed unanimous.

Next month Kate Nesbit will report how she is coming along with the Great Meadow history story which will be posted at both kiosks.

C. Forest Plans

Vice Chairman Wingate reported Dan Stepanauskas has completed the forest plan for the Sargent/Phelps lots and has requested a partial payment which our agreement provides for. He has requested \$1,950 which is well within the proportional amount for the 149 acres completed out of 306 acres. Mike Phelps moved to pay the invoice from the Forest Plan Account in the Conservation Fund. The motion was seconded by Mark Howard and passed unanimously.

A motion to pay the forester for work done thus far was made and seconded. Motion passed unanimous.

E. Well Water Testing

Laurel Podsen reported that collection day went well and thanked Jane Lemire and Heather Brown for their help. There were 35 samples returned of the 50 kits that were distributed. There was discussion on how to get more of the kits returned.

Ms. Podsen also mentioned that she has four nesting boxes (two bluebird and two robin) that can be put out this fall at Great Meadow.

VI. **New Business**

A. Old Home Weekend – Scavenger Hunt Plans and Support

Laurel Podsen stated that items for the scavenger hunt are being collected. Also, volunteers are needed to guide folks on the trail and to take pictures. Both Ms. Brown and Mr. Phelps volunteered to help.

B. Watershed Plan – Grant Funding Request

Vice Chairman Wingate reported a grant funding request will be submitted to fund several mitigation projects by the Lake Winnepesaukee Assn. and which are listed in the plan, by September. An advisory committee may be formed to help select which projects to submit.

C. Budget Review

There was discussion regarding the budget and the fact that to date little has been spent and all line items are in good shape. This will be put on next month's agenda due to Ms. Nesbit's absence so that she can give her review.

A motion to allow up to \$250.00 for scavenger hunt expenses was made and seconded. Motion passed unanimous.

D. Other

- Moose Mountain Regional Greenway Annual Meeting
9/5/21 from 1:00 – 4:30 p.m. including lunch
- NHA of Conservation Commission
9/11/21 from 9:30 am – 1:30 p.m. including lunch
Bear Brook State Park
- Forest Society Annual Meeting
9/25/21 9:00 to 1:00 p.m.
Creek Farm, Portsmouth
- Historical Society tour of Cheney Farm
9/17/21 at 10:00 a.m.
- Tuftonboro Association Annual Meeting
9/23/21 at 7:00 p.m. at the Tuftonboro Library

Vice Chairman Wingate will email information on above to all commission members.

VII. Non-Public Session

None.

Adjourn: There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the August 16, 2021 TCC meeting. A roll call vote followed; motion passed unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

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