

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

MEETING MINUTES
March 21, 2022

Present: Chairman Stephen Scapicchio, Vice Chairman Steven Wingate, Heather Brown, Larry Gil, Mark Howard, Kate Nesbit, Laurel Podsen, Lynne Walsh. *Staff:* Jane Lemire.

Absent: Guy Pike, Michael Phelps.

Call to Order: Chairman Scapicchio called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

I. Consideration of Minutes

A. February 21, 2022

A motion to accept the Minutes of February 21, 2022 as presented was made by Ms. Nesbit and seconded by Ms. Walsh. Motion passed unanimous.

II. Discussion Items

A. Earth Day

Chairman Scapicchio discussed having student awareness/involvement of Earth Day and suggested that TCC could sponsor an essay contest with the topic "Why is there Earth Day?" An Amazon or bookstore gift card as a prize was suggested. Ms. Podsen said she would bring this up to the school principal; although she is unsure whether it could be done this year. Due to the disruptive school year because of COVID, the school agendas are full. However, she will inquire/suggest to the principal.

B. Saving Special Places

Chairman Scapicchio stated that the Saving Special Places conference would take place virtually on April 1st and 2nd and encouraged attendance. The conference will be recorded for those who cannot attend on the actual dates. There are many good topics and money in the budget for conferences, so he encouraged those interested to attend.

C. Lyon Lot/Bean Lot Update

Chairman Scapicchio spoke with Attorney Sager who stated that the Lyon lot closing will be sometime in mid-April.

Regarding the purchase of the Bean lot: a 35-acre easement at the back of their lot abutting the Great Meadow is what will be purchased. Rick Van de Poll is working on a grant that would cover one hundred percent of the cost. June is submission for the grant and payout would be in November.

D. Other

- Scavenger Hunt

Dennis Zilembo stated that he has received many requests to return the scavenger hunt back to the town field location after being held at Nineteen Mile Bay the past two years. This year it will be held at the town field.

- TCC 4/18/22 Meeting/Guest Speakers

Chairman Scapicchio reminded the group that we will have guests' geologists (one from the State) at next month's meeting on April 18th and to feel free to invite anyone who may be interested in the presentation on the soil mapping work done in Tuftonboro.

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

Chairman Scapicchio stated he sent an email to FB Environment asking what their plans are for moving forward this spring and is awaiting a response. Mr. Gil and the group discussed the monitoring to date.

B. Great Meadow Trail Progress

Chairman Scapicchio stated he went out on the trail today and put the trail cameras back up. Next month, with cooperative weather, he would like to have the two new kiosks installed.

C. Forest Plans

Vice Chairman Wingate reported that the Forest Plans are up on our website and there will be an article in the Tuftonboro Times to let folks know. In May or June there will be a field day review for anyone who would like to attend. The BOS will be attending. The group discussed the plans and Vice Chairman Wingate gave his thoughts and expertise to the discussion. Mr. Gil brought up the logging that is happening on Ledge Hill Road and his concern for the damage happening.

VI. New Business

- Planning Board

Ms. Nesbit reported that the Planning Board would like to begin implementing some items from the master plan's high priority list. In choosing a project to begin with, the planning board chairman would like two members from each of these committees (conservation, planning and zoning) to come together for a meeting and determine which project would be the most practical to start with. Ms. Nesbit will be part of this committee and Vice Chairman Wingate volunteered to join her as well as representation of TCC.

- Back Bay (Potential) Project

Vice Chairman Wingate reported that the developers of Back Bay (the area behind Blacksmith Printing near Smith River) who want to build workforce housing and luxury condominiums have scaled back their initial design from seventy to fifty units. Presently, the area is zoned for just 17 units. Some of the investors had asked for zoning adjustments for this project but were denied for not being specific enough. There is no final sale agreement to date and the Land Bank (in conjunction with private funders) is encouraging the current owner to not make a commitment as there is an effort being made to purchase the property.

- Tuftonboro Association

Mr. Howard reported that the Tuftonboro Association, in conjunction with Earth Day, will hold the annual town road cleanup on Saturday, April 23rd. He reported that Heather Brown volunteered to oversee the project (Sue Wingate had done so previously); and he thanked Heather for volunteering.

VII. Non-Public Session

None.

Adjourn: There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Ms. Nesbit and seconded by Vice Chairman Wingate. Motion passed unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by Jane Lemire, Tuftonboro Conservation Commission Secretary
March 24, 2022*