

TOWN OF TUFTONBORO
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

240 Middle Road, Center Tuftonboro, NH 03816
Telephone: (603) 569-4539 ext.24; Fax: (603) 569-4328
conservation@tuftonboro.gov

MEETING MINUTES

June 20, 2022

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

Absent: Laurel Podsen.

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

I. Consideration of Minutes

A. May 16, 2022

A motion to accept the Minutes of May 16, 2022 as presented was made by Selectman Pike and seconded by Ms. Walsh. All in favor; motion passed unanimous.

II. Discussion Items

A. Woody Additions to Melvin River

Chairman Scapicchio gave a brief history of why woody additions are being added to the Melvin River. Years ago, farmers pulled the wood and trees from the river so that it would flow smooth and straight. However, what happened is that salt and sand began to build up and fish pools needed for hatchlings were eliminated. Approximately four years ago the repair to Melvin River began by adding back the wood (woody additions). The work started in Conway and has been coming southward down the river. The project is funded by Tin Mountain and the state moose plates. Chairman Scapicchio reported that he spoke with Rick Van de Poll last week who stated they will be making woody additions to 1.4 miles of the Melvin River this year. In addition, a small river (behind Lake Pond Road) will also be done. The goal is to repair two miles of river per year. Chairman Scapicchio has signed the grant application to help this project move forward.

B. Essay Contest

Chairman Scapicchio stated that the student winners of the earth day essay contest will be recognized with articles in the Granite State News and the Tuftonboro Times.

C. Budget Update

Chairman Scapicchio reported that the budget is in good shape with under \$500.00 spent recently on education, conferences, postage & supplies, and staff.

D. RTP (Recreational Trails Program) Grant

Chairman Scapicchio reported that the Town Departments (Conservation Commission; Parks & Rec) were unable to meet the deadline of June 17th to submit the grant applications for the Great Meadow Trail and the Bike Trail. Part of the requirement was to obtain three competitive quotes and we were only able to get one. Catherine Dufault from Carroll County Conservation District will apply for these two grants for these same projects next year.

E. Potter/Appleton Lot

Chairman Scapicchio reported that the first Public Hearing regarding the purchase of the Potter/Appleton lot took place at the last Board of Selectmen's. This first hearing was to seek approval to purchase. A second Public Hearing will be held at the next Board of Selectmen's meeting on June 27th at 4:30 p.m. at which time the Board of Selectmen can give approval to purchase the lot.

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 reported that he was not able to attend the most recent sampling as the day was changed and he had a prior commitment.

B. Great Meadow Trail Progress

Chairman Scapicchio reported that the holes were dug for the observation platform foundation; and the kiosk frame is in. Once the dirt settles and is stable the remaining piece will be set up. He stated he will be taking the Great Meadow Trail storyboard to the printers. This storyboard will be displayed in the trail kiosks. Ms. Nesbit suggested that the storyboard also be included on TCC's website.

Chairman Scapicchio also stated that he and Vice Chairman Wingate have begun work at the platform. The next step is to dig holes to be filled with concrete. Getting the concrete to the site will not be easy as bags weigh 80 lbs. each and a minimum of 30 bags will be needed. Also, the trail is very narrow in many areas and getting through won't be easy. Ms. Walsh can gather some volunteers from LRCT which is much appreciated. Chairman Scapicchio suggested that the commission purchase an electric one-wheel wheelbarrow to bring the cement to the site. The group discussed and decided it would be a helpful purchase for work at Great Meadow and other future projects.

A motion to purchase an electric wheelbarrow (approximately \$700.00) for work at the Great Meadow Trail was made by Mr. Howard and seconded by Selectman Pike. All in favor, motion passed unanimous.

C. Forest Plans

Vice Chairman Wingate reported that he, Chairman Scapicchio, Mark Howard, and the forester attended the field tour on Saturday, June 11th. There was not a quorum, so minutes are unnecessary. He stated that the tour started behind the fire station and went down to 19-Mike Bay. There was conversation on the Sargent-Phelps property but not a visit. Vice Chairman Wingate discussed the condition of the beech trees as well as the condition and type of other trees on the tour and shared his thoughts and suggestions. Once the plan and its cost are submitted by the forester, Chairman Scapicchio will meet with the Board of Selectmen to discuss having this in the budget .

D. Lawall Easement

Ms. Nesbit stated that there was nothing new to report and for the time being will put this agenda item on hiatus.

VI. New Business

A. Town Dock – 19-Mile Bay

Selectman Pike reported that the repair and update to the town dock is scheduled for late September. There is one glitch, however, it is not expected to delay the work. On the north side of the property, the dock already encroaches on private property and when the repairs and new walkways are added it will encroach on the property even more. The property line is in the lake for this particular property.

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 Selectman Pike. Motion passed unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by Jane Lemire, Tuftonboro Conservation Commission Secretary
June 22, 2022*