

**Minutes of Tuftonboro P&R Commission Meeting
Tuftonboro Town Hall
November 7, 2023**

Meeting called to order at 4:30pm by Chair, Eileen Gil.

Attendees: Dennis Zilembo, Director, Eileen Gil, Commission Chair, Lloyd Wood, Alternate Member, Bob Murray, Selectman Representative, Mitchell Tufts, Zac Tufts, Sarah Warner, Commission Members, and Joyce Lake, Secretary. A quorum was noted. Special Guests attending this Meeting: Steve Scapicchio, Director of Conservation Commission, Larry DeGeorge, & Eric Roseen, Wolfeboro-Tuftonboro Land Bank. Lloyd Wood made a motion to accept minutes as printed and Bob Murray second the motion, all were in favor.

Multi-Use Bike Trail Update, Joyce Lake reported that after many conversations with Andrew Lester, Bella Terra Trail Design, has suggested the 80+ acre Central Park, Rt 109A, Parcel #055-002-006-000 in Tuftonboro be re-considered as a Kid-Focused, rather than an Adult-Focused Multi-Use Bike Trail with emphasis on a Skills Training Area. **Dennis Zilembo & Joyce Lake met with the Wolfeboro-Tuftonboro Land Bank on July 17, 2023 at which Jim Nupp recommended we start with a Skills Training Area as Phase 1 and go from there.** This would be the best way to raise community awareness and support. **On October 18, 2023, Dennis Zilembo, Eileen Gil, Lloyd Wood & Joyce Lake met with the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Board to present our Multi-Use Bike Trail Project which would align with the 2022 Master Plan in which 64% of respondents wanted access to trail systems, parks, and outdoor recreation space and 31% specifically focused on bicycle infrastructure. Jill Cromwell, Chair of CIP recommended a Direct Mail, FaceBook Page & Town Website update be instituted for the Multi-Use Bike Trail.** Our re-focused plan for Central Park, that at present is an empty lot, with a cemetery in far backside, a vacant, unsafe House, and a new Verizon Cell Tower, and the present Hiking Trail has much potential for all residents and visitors as we consider the refreshed Hiking Trail, the potential Skills Training Pump Track, walkways, benches, pre-school Playground and a Facilities Building with restrooms, meeting room, & kitchen to be used by P&R for various events for our fine Town of Tuftonboro. These added features would be part of our Phase 2, and/or Phase 3 CIP plans.

Eric Roseen, WBoro-TBoro Land Bank Member shared Contour-Topographical Maps of the present TBoro Hiking Trail and expressed his concern about the wet areas within the Trail. Eric Roseen is a Licensed Land Surveyor and in 2005-2006 he laid out and built more than 1/3 of the present trail from scratch. Eric Roseen recommends a "Foundation Plan" to include: Statutory Notification of Trails with the State, a Department of Environmental Services (DES) Permit for flagging of located wetlands, Topographical Maps at the UNH Library. Steve Scapicchio recommended Rick Vanderpoll, Environmental Scientist, who could do this, and Steve Scapicchio stated that the Conservation Commission would pay the fee for this service. Larry DeGeorge mentioned that the WBoro-TBoro Land Bank generally contributes financially and is a facilitator for projects such as this. Larry DeGeorge said he was a Trustee of the Lakes Region Conservation Trust, and he has assisted in flagging and constructing 31 miles of

Appalachian Mt. Trails at the Castle in the Clouds. Larry DeGeorge has a friend who is a Geologist and Soil Scientist who has studied all of Tuftonboro area lands. Eric Roseen says time is of the essence since flagging wetlands needs to be done before there is 4" of snow cover. Steve Scapicchio said he would contact Rick Vanderpoll tomorrow, to see if he is available.

Having listened to this discussion, Sarah Warner and Joyce Lake mentioned that on October 27. they walked on the present Trail (with Sarah's 3 y/o son) with Andrew Lester who identified the areas needing improvement. Andrew recommended line of sight enhancement of trimming lower branches for safety in Trail maintenance and minor refreshments to the Trail. Since the new Re-Focused Skills Training Area does not involve the present Hiking/Biking Trail, there appears to be no need for a wetlands permit or flagging to proceed with this child-centered project that has been recommended and approved by the Tuftonboro P&R, and that we have submitted to the CIP Committee for their 10 Year Projects.

Director's Report:

Dennis thanked Mitchell and Zac Tufts for working at the Davis Field Playground at the Tuftonboro Central School (TCS) to clean up things that were a safety factor for the school children. Sarah Warner mentioned that the TCS playground upgrade includes:

- 1) The broken seesaw base was removed
- 2) The rusted Dome is taped off & will be removed soon.
- 3) There are wood chips to be spread over the playground

Sarah said the School District is doing this upgrade project.

Punt, Pass & Kick was a great success with 15 kids participating. Awards & prizes were given.

Halloween Dance/Party at the Town House.

Trunk or Treat was a success with Belknap Camp taking 1st Place. Zac Tufts suggested the Trunk or Treat for next year be held at the Town House.

Men's Basketball at TCS has 4-5 players on Tuesdays @6:00

Dodgeball at TCS is a fun & popular program on Thursdays

Melvin Village Church has offered to store ALL our picnic tables for the winter season.

Financial Report:

Dennis Zilembo reviewed our Financial Report for Current Year Expenditures.

After some discussion regarding the 2023 Invoice from the Wolfeboro Department of P&R for \$16,661, Lloyd Wood recommends the Chair of our Commission, Eileen Gil, advise the Board of Selectmen to pay the \$13,598.50 as calculated by our Chair for the 2023 Invoice. Bob Murray, Selectman Representative second the motion. Originally, there was a Town Meeting Vote to pay Wolfeboro P&R. Bob Murray stated that a Warrant Article may be the legal way to process this motion. Bob Murray will discuss these details with the Tuftonboro Board of Selectmen.

Revolving Fund for P&R:

Lloyd Wood presented the following information to the P&R Commission: "On page 6 of the 1993 Annual Town Report at 10 March 93, Article 13 was read to the open Town Meeting. The Article asked the voters to allow the unexpended portion of the Parks and Recreation Commission funds to be placed to special Revolving Account. Per RSA 36-A:5. Gordon Hunt moved and Jack Widmer second. The motion passed".

"See page 100-101. These funds do not lapse. Recreation Revolving Funds are authorized by RSA 35-B2,II. The requests for payment from the Revolving Fund are submitted to the Town Treasurer for payment. These funds are not part of the Town Budget. It is important to understand that these funds CAN NOT be co-mingled with any legal appropriation". Bob Murray, Selectman Representative, will bring this information to the Tuftonboro Board of Selectmen.

The next Tuftonboro P&R Commission Meeting is scheduled for 5:00pm on Tuesday, December 5, 2023. Joyce Lake made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:00pm, and Zack Tufts second.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Lake
P&R Commission Secretary