

# TILTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

April 17, 2017

## MINUTES

Members present: Chuck Mitchell, chair; Bob Hardy; Helen Hanks; Paul Rushlow; Jon Scanlon; Ben Wadleigh; and Kathi Mitchell

### Meeting was called to order by the chair at 7:00 p.m.

1. **Minutes:** Helen made a motion to approve the March minutes. Bob seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.
2. **Salmon Run maintenance:** Paul has agreed to do two mowings a year as well as weekly walkthroughs and the monitoring of the Dodge tree. Helen made a motion to approve and Ben seconded the motion. All were in favor. Bob brought up the fact that the Winnepesaukee River Trail needs maintenance work. There is a fallen tree blocking the path as well as broken fence parts. There was a discussion about who is responsible. It is the opinion of the Commission that the Easement Deed (Belknap County Registry of Deeds Book 2963 Page 707) seems clear that WRTA is responsible to “use, maintain, and repair a pedestrian multi-use trail.” The secretary will send a letter to the Selectmen with a copy to WRTA explaining our concerns.
3. **Snow dump:** There are still a lot of questions about the test results. Chuck has not heard back from NH DES.
4. **Winnisquam Watershed Network:** Chuck provided an update on the April 7 meeting. They are concerned with water quality issues and milfoil removal from Lake Winnisquam. After a discussion, Helen made a motion to help support the water quality testing of waterways in Tilton up to \$400, provided the Commission receives prior documentation about the testing as well as the results from the testing. Ben seconded the motion and it was approved.
5. **Eversource:** Kathi reported on her correspondence with Michael Stanek, Transmission Arborist where he stated that they operate under Wetlands BMPs and will be performing a walk in Tilton during April and May. He said that he will reach out to the Commission to “share the locations where they will be removing trees and will discuss their minimization strategy.” Paul presented the Commission with information from George Samaras, Siting and Construction Services, who explained that Eversource will be conducting field investigations and sampling soils throughout the Franklin to Laconia power line corridor. Paul indicated that Mr. Samaras said that the tests have been re-scheduled for the fall and that he will contact Paul later. Bob made a motion and Helen seconded it to have the secretary send Mr. Samaras a letter requesting information about the project, the sampling, and any restoration. The motion passed.
6. **Office Referral Form developed by Helen:** The Commissioners agreed that the form was excellent. They suggested that the check boxes be removed but asked that an explanation of the outcome be required.
7. **Election 2017-2018:** Helen moved/Bob seconded Chuck Mitchell for Chair - approved  
Jon moved/Kathi seconded Helen for Vice-Chair – approved  
Helen moved/Kathi seconded Bob for Vice-Chair – approved
8. **Clean-up Day at Salmon Run:** May 6 from 9-12 – Chuck will be in charge of notifying members of the community.
9. **NHACC Dues:** Helen made a motion to pay and Bob seconded the motion. All were in favor.

- 10. Easement on School Street property:** At town meeting, Roy Wakefield asked that the town place an easement on the town-owned property. Jon will bring it to the Selectmen and Bob will speak with the Park Commission. The plan is to place a restrictive easement on the property so it can remain a viable wildlife corridor. Helen moved and Jon seconded the motion to begin the process. All were in favor.
- 11. Other:** Jon reported on the plans to map wetlands at Business Park with flags. There was a discussion about setbacks used for town water and sewer. He also reported on the unauthorized placement of advertising next to the fence at Salmon Run. It is a violation of both town and state ordinances. Jon has volunteered to cut some brush in the river for the kayakers who will be racing in June. He will contact Ken Norton.
- 12. Proposed School Street housing plans:** Ben showed possible plans given him by Kevin Lagassie who owns the trailer park on School Street. The owner plans to add thirty new lots and to connect to the municipal sewage at Rogers Trailer Park. There were numerous questions about the proposed project including the size of connecting pipes, restrictive easements on the property, and wetlands issues. Ben also said there is a problem with drainage from the School Street trailer park not staying in the wetland but moving onto his property, and this needs to be remedied first. The Commissioners suggested the owner should first meet with the Sewer Commission and NH DES and then do a conceptual with the Planning Board; and Ben should be in attendance as a resource.
- 13. Eversource Grants:** Jon mentioned restoration of Packer Brook as a possible topic.
- 14. Town of Tilton Spring Ditching Plans:** The Commissioners expressed concern about invasive plants being cut or included in excavated materials. In particular, the Commissioners are concerned about knotweed, purple loosestrife, phragmites, and glossy buckthorn. Cutting them can lead to increased growth and careless removal can lead to further infestations. Since Paul can easily identify these invasives, it was recommended that he work with the Public Works Department to identify these plants so as to avoid any problems for the town.
- 15. Sink hole and Blue Water Pipe:** The town has filled the sink hole to the left of the Salmon Run parking lot but it needs to be monitored in case the problem is internal instead of external. The blue water pipe is sticking up at the entrance to the parking lot and needs to be covered with soil or fill for its protection.
- 16.** Helen made a motion to adjourn and Ben seconded it. All were in favor.  
The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathi Mitchell, Secretary