

TILTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

August 21, 2017

MINUTES

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

Guests: Tracy Tarr; Lindsey White; Katherine Dawson

Meeting was called to order by the chair at 7:05 p.m.

- 1. Eversource L176 Transmission Line Rebuild Project:** The Eversource team met with the Tilton Planning Board on August 8. Since their original plan has been slightly modified, they are here to review the changes with the Conservation Commission. The access pad at the Calef Hill location has been reduced in size from 30' by 50' to 30' by 30'. There will be less of an impact on the wetlands at that site. There was a discussion about using "compatible" shrubs and plants. Instead of using the Wolf Road as an access, they will enter off Dublin Road, and there will be a temporary impact of over 2500 square feet. The changes have been incorporated with the DES permit application. Members expressed their concern about the sensitive nature of the wetlands off Dublin Road and encouraged Eversource representatives to consider doing the work during the winter so as to minimize any impact or damage. It was also noted that Winding Hill Brook (listed on the plans) is not the correct name for Bamford Brook.
- 2. Bittern Lane updates:** Members were updated on the site visitation, the letter of response from M&B Tractor regarding the mowing and lawn clippings disposal, and the town's intention to request a third party to review proposed plans for the Huiser parcel. It was noted that the back wetland near Agway seems to be shrinking. There were a number of questions about surface water conditions in the general area. The chair will contact Tim Bernier and Mike Becker at Eastern Analytical in Concord for suggestions about possible testing services. Jon made a motion to get estimates for water testing and to pre-approve a selection if the costs are under \$1000. Jim seconded the motion, and all were in favor. There was a question about the AOT permit for Ryan Ford which seems to be out of compliance. This matter needs to be reviewed and addressed.
- 3. Approval of July minutes:** Helen made a motion to approve; Jim seconded the motion; all were in favor.
- 4. Old Business:**
 - a. Salmon Run update:** Paul did a great job mowing/bushhogging, and it looks really good. Paul will return to work on the walkways and knotweed toward the end of the month. Helen made a motion to contact NH DOT about clearing vegetation next to the river along the guard rail/railroad part of Laconia Road, and to notify the Commission. Ben seconded the motion, and all were in favor.
 - b. The Report of Concern:** Several edits were made. Helen made a motion to approve the amended form and to post on the Tilton CC website. Ben seconded the motion, and all were in favor.
 - c. School Street property:** The chair showed a design for the signage and provided pricing options. Helen made the motion to buy the metal 2' by 5' sign for \$105 and Jon seconded the motion. All were in favor. The Commissioners reviewed a letter that is to be sent to Roy Wakefield and suggested that it also be sent to the Selectboard.

5. New Business:

- a. **Island Park restoration:** Jon spoke about his concerns regarding the condition of the Island Park with the continuing erosion. The discussion continued with members expressing an interest in finding ways to replace rocks by hand or with simple tools instead of needing heavy equipment. Members also stated that the project could be done in sections as opposed to all at once. Jon will contact people for several bids. Kathi will check on the status and conditions related to the funds being held by the Tilton Trustees of the Trust Funds for Island repairs.
- b. The members have a concern about the Department of Public Works cutting roadside brush and inadvertently spreading invasives. Before any roadside work is done, they need to be aware of what invasive plants are present so as to avoid increasing the problem of invasive species. Paul would be a good resource to make these identifications for the department. It was suggested that the secretary send a letter to this effect.
- c. Jon reported on a town property with a right-of-way next to/part of a wetland. The Commissioners were very clear that the property needs to be delineated by a wetlands scientist first so that there is no doubt or confusion about the exact location of the wetlands, the buffer, the property line, and the right-of-way. Such a delineation will prevent future problems/litigations. It might also be wise to have the property surveyed.

5. Correspondence:

- a. NH DES Land Resources Management File #2017-01082 R04 Lot #3 Roger Abbott Letter of Deficiency
- b. NH DES Standard dredge and Fill Application File# 2017-01522 R16 Lot 1-1 Request for More Info
- c. Scott McGuffin invoice # 26738 for \$168.75 Jon moved and Ben seconded the motion to approve payment and all were in favor.
- d. Application for renewal of Groundwater Management Permit from Jay's Marina prepared by Nobis Engineering
- e. University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension Emerald Ash Borer packet of information
- f. US Department of Homeland Security – FEMA –Winnepesaukee Watershed Risk MAP information

6. Other:

- a. The TCC used to receive intent-to-cut notifications signed by the Selectboard but that hasn't been happening. Currently, there is timber harvesting on Clark Road as well as School Street. The TCC might be able to offer insights as to whether there are any wetlands issues involved.
- b. The state is replacing a culvert on Winter Street but the stormwater runoff is going into the brook and impacting wetland areas and the playing fields.
- c. Ben discussed the timber harvesting issues on David Wadleigh's property.

Helen made a motion to adjourn at 8:50 pm;Kathi seconded the motion; all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathi Mitchell, Secretary