

TILTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

August 19, 2019

MINUTES

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

Meeting was called to order by the Chair at 7:01 p.m.

1. Minutes: Jim made a motion to approve the July minutes. Helen seconded the motion. All were in favor.

2. Old Business:

a) Salmon Run Maintenance: Dylan McGuffin completed the contracted work at the property. The next step is for the town public works department to remove the cuttings, recognizing that there is a great deal of brush on site. Paul has sprayed some of the locust trees. The view of the river is still compromised by the height of the grasses. After discussion, Jon made a motion, which was seconded by Helen, to mow from the culvert to the parking lot (formerly Ernie's) as soon as reasonably possible. The motion was approved by a majority. Discussion continued on protecting wildflowers on the property in the area from the culvert toward town. Helen made a motion, seconded by Paul, to locate and mark areas of wildflowers in this portion of the property. Then, the remaining section could be mowed at a later date. The motion passed with a majority vote. It was suggested that commissioners might want to spend some time weed whacking grasses and invasives along the top edge of the property some evening for an hour.

3. New Business:

- a) The Hall Memorial Library and seniors from the Senior Center** are planning a "Storybook Walk" on September 18 at the Salmon Run Conservation Area. The chair sent them an email detailing the recent changes to the property regarding trimming and pruning.
- b) The new Land Use Coordinator** is Lee Ann Moynihan from Hooksett.
- c) There was a short discussion of the issues regarding the Tru-Green accident** which damaged property in town.
- d) Jon met with an official of NH DOT District 3** regarding the guard rail on Laconia Road past Cumberland Farms and before Salmon Run Conservation Area. There are serious drainage issues.
- e) There are two maple trees on the Tilton Island** that have some dead branches and need some pruning. It would seem best to trim the dead branches and plant new trees nearby so that the Island will continue to provide shade for those visiting. It is also a Shoreland Water Quality Protection Act issue. In addition, members noted that tree roots on the Island are above the surface of the ground and face damage every time the lawn is mowed.
Bob made a motion to have the secretary send a letter to the Selectboard to explain about Shoreland Protection requirements and to hire an arborist (instead of a tree-cutting firm) to make the determination

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as to the viability of the trees in question and to suggest appropriate trees to be planted. The Selectboard should also be aware of the problems with the roots and the need for additional soil to cover them. Jim seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

- f) **The Belknap County Conservation District** is holding a Soil Erosion Field Day on September 11 in Gilford from 8-4. The cost is \$55. Helen made a motion, seconded by Kathi, to pay for any member who wants to attend. The motion was approved. Bob and Paul indicated they would like to attend. The secretary will forward information about the workshop to all members. Anyone interested should email her and she will contact Tim Pearson about writing a check for interested members to attend.
- g) **NH Rivers Management and Protection Program** - Jan presented members with information and a fact sheet about the program. While the process seems daunting, it was decided to contact the coordinator of the program to attend a future meeting of the TCC.

4. **Correspondence:** NH DES File Number 2019-02432 322 West Main Street

Thank you notes from Eila and Julie Petty for Barry Conservation Camp donation

Helen made a motion to adjourn at 8:27 p.m. Jon seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

The next meeting will be on September 16, 2019 at 7:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathi Mitchell, secretary