

MEETING
Tilton Conservation Commission
Tilton Town Hall
July 15, 2024
MINUTES

Present: Chuck Mitchell, Jim Cropsey, Bob Hardy, Ken Norton, Paul Rushlow, Jon Scanlon,
and Kathi Mitchell

Guest: Tony Cross

The meeting of the Tilton Conservation Commission was called to order by the chair at 7:00 p.m.

1. **June Minutes:** Jim noted a typo on the second page with the word “bout” instead of “about”. Bob made a **motion** to approve the minutes as amended. Paul seconded the motion, and it was approved.
2. **Old Business:**
 - a) **Salmon Run** – The brush along the river is obscuring the view of the river. Ken said that Dylan McGuffin, who worked on this site previously, might be available to assist with clearing some of the unwanted vegetation. Ken will contact Dylan to get a bid, and we can discuss this at the August meeting.
 - b) **WRTA** – The kiosk really needs to be updated. Greg Devolder had even mentioned this in a news article in the Echo not too long ago. There was a discussion about using QR codes as well as old photos and information to connect with other trails. This led to a discussion about updating the old “Historic Walking Tour of Tilton” brochure if we can find copies. We could work with the Tilton Historical Society and the Foothill Foundation to accomplish this. Members will try to locate old copies. The TCC could assist with printing as well.
 - c) **Taking Action for Wildlife** – The TCC received a grant of technical assistance from this program, sponsored by UNH Cooperative Extension, NH Fish & Game, and the NHACC. On July 1, four members participated in a Zoom meeting sharing information and discussing how the project could proceed, with a focus on wildlife corridors. Haley Andreozzi and Wendy Scribner will bring maps and more information to the August 19 meeting which will have an early start. The secretary was asked to invite other boards and commissions to attend. We have reserved the upstairs meeting room to accommodate more people. The secretary has also contacted the Northfield and Sanbornton conservation commissions for a possible joint meeting in the fall to discuss issues of interest and to share the wildlife corridor information.
3. **New Business:**
 - a) The commission received a Standard Dredge and Fill Permit Application from Haven Grove LLC 246 Laconia Road File #2024-01954. Members reviewed the documents and various maps. There were a number of concerns about drainage from the property into the wetlands from the steep slopes above. It was noted that no runoff and drainage data (particularly for 100-year storms) was provided. While members agreed that the “unimproved 12-inch culvert” needed to be replaced with a larger culvert, they were not sure that an 18-inch culvert would be sufficient if the applicant went ahead

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with plans to add at least ten buildings with four units each on the hillside in addition to the proposed storage units and other development plans. Members felt strongly that a box culvert should be required to allow interconnection with the abutting wetland. Also, this property is part of a connected wildlife corridor that extends from Lancaster Hill along the Lochmere Golf & Country Club property. The applicant applied for an intent to cut permit in May 2023. Extensive harvesting of trees occurred in the fall of 2023, so the property has only been cleared for one year, not five as stated in the application. Members who went on the site walk noticed erosion issues on the side of the hill. Abutters who attended the May 2024 Zoning Board of Adjustment meeting spoke of drainage problems that cropped up after the harvesting of trees on this property. Certainly, since additional development is planned, drainage calculations should be required. It was also noted that the documentation from the NH Natural Heritage Bureau listed only a 12-inch culvert. Hopefully, this was just a clerical error.

6. Correspondence –

- a) NH DES File #2024-01447 C N Brown 256 Main Street Shoreland Impact
- b) NH DOT William J. Cass letter to Selectboard June 20
- c) NH DES File #2024-01679 Ross and Patti Garofalo 12 Murphy Lane R09 Lot 3
- d) NH DES File #2024-01865 Ronald Chase 35 Lakewood Drive U02 Lot 16

7. Other:

- a) Invoices from secretary for work from January through June of 2024 – Bob made a **motion** to approve payment. Ken seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.
- b) Members read about the letter from NH DOT regarding the failing guardrail in the local newspaper but were not copied with that information even though the TCC has been fully involved with this matter. The secretary requested a copy of the DOT letter and shared it with the TCC and other interested parties. Jon reports that the Tilton selectboard has sent a response to NH DOT. He was asked to share that with the commission.

Bob made a **motion** to adjourn, seconded by Paul at 8:29 p.m. The motion was approved.

Respectfully submitted by Kathi Mitchell