

MEETING
Tilton Conservation Commission
Tilton Town Hall
August 19, 2024
MINUTES

Present: Chuck Mitchell, Helen Hanks, Bob Hardy, Ken Norton, Paul Rushlow, Jon Scanlon,
and Kathi Mitchell

Guests: Haley Andreozzi, Wendy Scribner, Pat Consentino, Jane Alden, John Bernard, Peter Spier, Greg Devolder, Steve Nix, Paul Blaisdell

The meeting of the Tilton Conservation Commission was called to order by the chair at 6:32 p.m.

- 1. Taking Action for Wildlife:** During the past winter, a series of webinars was held online and was sponsored by UNH Cooperative Extension, NH Fish & Game, and the NH Association of Conservation Commissions. Various Tilton Conservation Commission members participated, and the group applied for a technical assistance grant from TAFW, which it received. Tonight's meeting was an introduction to information about wildlife corridors and their importance to a community. The TAFW team presented a variety of maps for the Tilton area and provided links to state websites that will help the community boards and commissions. The meeting was tape-recorded and will be available at a later date for anyone who wishes to view it. A Zoom meeting is planned for the next group session with the TAFW team.
- 2. Haven Grove LLC 246 Laconia Road:** Mr. Bernard explained that he wishes to build storage units on his property. His latest plan is to have three buildings, including an office, inside one of the storage buildings. He suggested he had calculations for a 100-year storm, but the drainage plan is not available at this time. He noted that the box culvert suggested by the conservation commission would be too expensive for him, so he is planning to use a 24" partially submerged culvert with sediment. He was asked about fueling activity during construction, and he said that they would use mobile tanks in the back of pickup trucks. Members suggested having a temporary refueling area with mats or pads to absorb any accidental leakages and prevent them from entering the groundwater. There were questions about the size of the snow storage area in the back of the units. The applicant agreed that they may need to bring in a loader and remove snow offsite if there are large storms. Mr. Bernard also said that it is cold storage so snow shouldn't melt on the shed roof with solar panels. Something needs to be done to prevent snow from being plowed into the nearby wetlands. Placing large boulders along the edge of the wetlands should be an option. Downcast lighting was discussed, and the applicant stated that the lights would be on a motion sensor and would be dimmed later at night. There are no plans at this time to have any trash containers. Members suggested that, if that fact should change, a fenced area would be needed as well as covers on the container(s).
Commissioners suggested that the swales and detention ponds be planted with species that will help to mitigate the effects of road salt and vehicle fluids.

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3. Minutes from July 15 (regular meeting) and July 29 (special meeting): Ken made a **motion** to accept the minutes for both meetings as presented. Bob seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

4. Old Business:

- a) **Salmon Run** – Dylan McGuffin did an excellent job clearing brush and invasives along the river. This may need to be an annual task. Jon said that he is looking to obtain a license to spray near aquatic areas and may be able to discourage the invasives from returning.
- b) **WRTA** – The annual Taste of the Trail fundraiser and fun event is scheduled for October 10 at the Franklin Elks Club. Donations and sponsorships are encouraged. There has been a washout near Cross Mill Road that may be related to development in the area. The authorities need to be notified.

5. New Business:

- a) **Johns Manville** - A conceptual project has been presented to the town regarding developing manufacturing plants and residential structures on the brownfields site off Laconia Road. Containment of the various asbestos dumps on the site and test borings are being planned by the developer. The site has been subject to erosion in the past, and river flooding is always a concern. Ken noted that there is a new document in the Johns Manville file at NH DES. The secretary will request a copy from NH DES.
- b) **PbN expedited requests** – Since 2022, the commission has had a policy regarding signing expedited permits of any kind. Bob made a **motion** to continue to use the same policy that has been in effect with regard to PbN expedited requests. All were in favor.
- c) **Joint meeting with Northfield and Sanbornton** – The September 16 meeting will begin at 6:00 pm and will conservation commissioners from Northfield and Sanbornton. It will be a chance to share information and learn what other commissions are doing. Other possible topics include wildlife corridors, streams and brooks, the DOT guard rail situation, historic walking tour project, culverts, communicating with other boards, and maximizing conservation in the communities.

6. Other:

- a) **Winnisquam Watershed Network** – The chair presented an invoice from the WWN for work done in Tilton during the summer of 2024 to remove invasive plants from Lake Winnisquam. Helen made a **motion** to pay the amount presented of \$4,350 and Bob seconded the motion, which was then approved.
- b) **Budget for 2025** – After a review of last year's budget, Helen made a **motion**, seconded by Ken, to adopt a budget of \$8.500 dollars which includes a \$300 increase for at Salmon Run maintenance. The motion was approved.

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- c) **Silver Lake Association** – The SLA has requested funding for the removal of milfoil and water violet from Silver Lake during the summer of 2024. Commissioners want to be sure that reimbursement is only for work done in the Tilton portion of the lake. More research is needed.
- d) THOP gardens – The TCC has not done well at maintaining the town gardens at THOP this year. We should plant up to 8 chrysanthemums in front and along the perpendicular garden. Helen made a **motion**, seconded by Paul, to purchase plants up to a total of \$50. The motion was approved with one abstention.
- e) There was a discussion about Eversource having begun work in Franklin. Tilton issues have not yet been resolved. There was also a discussion about topics of interest and concern to the community.

6. Correspondence –

- a) NH DES Standard Dredge & Fill Permit Application File #2024-00681 Eversource Transmission Line ROW Belmont, Franklin, Gilford, Laconia, and Tilton Public Hearing
- b) Email to TCC from Brian and Deena Hupper 67 Noyes Road re: PbN
- c) Email from Kara Villone NH DES re: Haven Grove LLC
- d) Request for more information for NH DES Standard Dredge & Fill Permit Application #2024-01679 Patti/Ross Garofalo 12 Murphy Lane
- e) NH DES PbN #2024-02212 Brian and Deena Hupper 67 Noyes Road and NH DES Request for more information on August 8

Helen made a **motion** to adjourn, seconded by Paul at 9:11 p.m. The motion was approved.

Respectfully submitted by Kathi Mitchell