



# CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING

Regular Meeting

6:00pm, Corner Meeting House Room, 1st Floor, Belmont Mill

Wednesday, November 1, 2023 @ 6:00 pm

## MINUTES

### Call to Order

D. Naiva called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

Present: Chair Denise Naiva; Members Pauline Tessier and Georgina Lambert; Jane Jordan and Susan Irving; Alternate Members Jeffrey DeFrancesco; Richard Moreau and Deb Woodcock; Student Member Emilie DeFrancesco and Emerson Decato

Absent: Vice Chair Ed Stephenson

Staff: Karen Santoro, Town Planner

There were approximately 25 audience members in attendance.

### Guest Speaker/Presentation:

*Becoming Wolf: Eastern Coyotes in New Hampshire* presented by Chris Schadler, NH Wildlife Coalition

D. Naiva introduced Christine Schadler of the NH Wildlife Coalition.

C. Schadler presented her talk explaining the relationship between the Eastern Coyotes and Eastern Wolves; the life and breeding cycles of the coyote; the individual and pack hierarchy; their food; habits; and spoke about how we can co-exist with them.

### Minutes:

- Meeting of October 4, 2023

G. Lambert made a motion to accept the minutes as amended.

Amendment: G. Lambert was incorrectly identified as making a motion. Minutes had been corrected by L. Stewart.

S. Irving seconded the motion.  
All in favor.

- Work Day October 28, 2023

S. Irving made a motion to accept the minutes of the October 28, 2023 Work Day as presented.

G. Lambert seconded the motion.  
All in favor.

### Budget/Expenditures:

- 2023 Budget Review

D. Naiva updated the members on the requested 2024 Budget. The Board of Selectmen voted to accept the budget as presented that morning after a deadlock vote at the prior budget presentation meeting.

K. Santoro updated the members on the balance of the Conservation Fund; and informed them that their current budget balance is getting low due to recent expenditures such as dues to NH Lakes, and several members attending conferences.

#### **Student Members Questions/Activities**

- New student member

New student member Emerson Decato was introduced to the Commission and she spoke briefly about her interest in the outdoors and conservation.

#### **Other Business:**

- Update on Wuelper Property (Route 140 - Depot Street)

K. Santoro updated the Commission that Mr. Wuelper had sent a quit claim deed to the Town; it was rejected by the Belknap County Registry of Deeds due to missing information required by RSA. K. Santoro informed the Commission that she typed up a corrected deed and has sent it to Mr. Wuelper for his signature. Once it is returned it will be recorded at the Registry of Deeds.

- Sargent Fund – 2024 Application

It was the consensus of Commission to request \$500 from the Sargent Fund for 2024.

- NHACC conference

It was noted that several members will be attending the conference on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>.

- Mile Hill property walk

The members will put out some suggested dates for a property walk at the newly acquired Mile Hill property. Date of walk will be announced as soon as it is set.

- Jeff Marden Town Forest Kiosks

D. Naiva informed the members that she and Land Use Tech Rod Cameron had gone to the Town Forest and, due to lack of keys, cut the existing padlocks on the kiosks; cleaned the kiosks and replaced the locks with new ones. She also noted that R. Cameron was going to reach out to the sign company because the sign is showing signs of wear and weather.

- Tioga Marsh Parking Lot Surface Repair /Gate donation

P. Tessier updated the members that Pike Industries donated two loads of bank run gravel for the parking lot at the Tioga Marsh parking area. The Department of Public Works spread the gravel and the parking lot looks much better. The members were able to park more easily and the puddles were eliminated.

P. Tessier also informed the members that an 11' gate was donated to the Commission by the Lord family to be installed at the Gardner's Grove end of the trails to help prevent ATVs from accessing the property and causing damage. The DPW picked up the gate and will store it at the garage until it can be installed in the spring.

The Commission expressed their appreciation to the DPW for its help in spreading the gravel and picking up the gate.

**Other Business:**

D. Naiva presented Emily DeFrancesco with her Grand Marshal medallion from Old Home Day.

**Non-public Session**

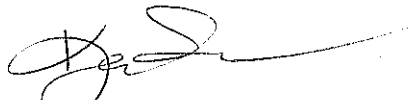
- RSA 91-A:3 II (d) (if necessary)

P. Tessier made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:08PM.

J. Jordan seconded the motion.

All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Karen Santoro', written in a cursive style.

Karen Santoro, Town Planner