



CONSERVATION COMMISSION

TOWN OF BELMONT, NH

Wednesday, June 7, 2023
 Belmont Mill Tioga Conference Room
 Belmont, NH

Present: Chair Denise Naiva; Vice Chair Ed Stephenson; Members Jane Jordan, Pauline Tessier, Georgina Lambert, Susan Irving; Alternate Members Richard Moreau, Jeffrey DeFrancesco; Sharon Ciampi, Ex-Officio; Student Members Emilie DeFrancesco and William Riley (Zoom)

Absent: Alternate Member Deborah Woodcock

Staff: Karen Santoro, Town Planner and Elizabeth Stewart, Land Use Clerk

D. Naiva opened the meeting at 6:02pm

Minutes

P. Tessier made a motion to accept the minutes from the meeting of May 3, 2023 as written. E. Stephenson seconded the motion. All in favor (6-0).

E. Stephenson made a motion to accept the minutes from the special meeting on May 17, 2023 as written. G. Lambert seconded the motion. All in favor (6-0).

Tioga Management Plan

P. Tessier reported that herself and forester, R. Klemarczyk, spent 3 hours clearing trees and brush from the trail on May 25, 2023. She claimed the trail needs some more work, and provided a list of several dates where members could sign-up to assist. Once the trail is complete, they will arrange for blazing and signage to be posted.

Budget/Expenditure

G. Lambert made a motion to expend \$435.00 for fees incurred by trail clearing. The motion was seconded by S. Irving. All in favor (6-0).

Silver Lake Association

P. Tessier shared that an herbicide treatment will be conducted on June 8, 2023 at 10:00am, and that she posted notification fliers at all public boat launch areas. Silver Lake Association's annual meeting will be held on June 24, 2023.

Winnisquam Watershed Network

E. Stephenson stated deep water testing started in May. In June they will start off shore testing and tributary monitoring. The lake hosts started their boat checks for the season, and will be working weekends through the duration of the school year. They anticipate a busy boating season.

He further reported the loons and eagles have been successfully nesting on Lake Winnisquam. The eagles produced two fledglings.

Student Member Questions/Activities

W. Riley recounted his climate summit that took place on May 17, 2023. There were 75 attendees. He commented there was a diverse selection of guest speakers that all view climate change from a different perspective. Overall, he was pleased with the turn out and participation.

E. DeFrancesco mentioned a couple peers that may be interested in becoming the next student member for the conservation commission. W. Riley recommended the new member be an upcoming junior so they would be able to complete two full years of membership.

Community Outreach

J. DeFrancesco gave a quick update on the Facebook page he had created for the Conservation Commission. There are currently 11 likes and 17 followers. He will use the Facebook page to promote ongoing projects and upcoming events.

Other Business

S. Irving and P. Tessier both attended the tree planting event with the Merrimack River Watershed Council. The group of 10 was successful in planting roughly 3,500 trees over several days.

D. Naiva and P. Tessier attended the 5 Rivers Regional Conservation Plan Conference on June 5, 2023. The goal of the conference was to gather conservation commission members from the 17 towns that hold conservation easements. At the conference, 5 Rivers shared they are collecting data from questionnaires the representatives filled out. That data is being used to develop maps of high priority conservation areas and should be finalized this coming Fall.

D. Naiva left a voicemail for Mr. Wuelper about donating his property on Depot Street and did not hear back. She did take a look, and was unable to locate a deed for the property. K. Santoro said she believes she has seen the deed, but will take another look at the Registry of Deeds to

confirm. D. Naiva asked the other members if they were interested in continuing to pursue the donation, and all agreed it was not a priority at this time.

K. Santoro gave a quick update on the Mile Hill property. The board of selectmen have signed the purchase and sales agreement. The town attorney is conducting the title search and getting the certificate of insurance, once complete, she can schedule transfer of ownership.

D. Naiva stated that they will now have to wait until the Fall or Winter to tag the Ladd Hill Property. Per forester, R. Klemarczyk, it is best to do when the trees are bare.

R. Moreau shared the Old Home Day subcommittee had raised \$100 in donations towards giveaways. S. Ciampi brought a map of old home day booth set-up areas, and said she spoke with the Director of Parks and Recreation in order to get a better location this year.

D. Naiva spoke with Keith Bennett regarding the tree she planted at the Sanborn Farm and he is going to assist with maintenance. K. Santoro said she is going to get in touch with Prescott Towle to discuss the removal of the invasive phragmites and autumn olive.

K. Santoro reported there have been two more village trees either damaged or destroyed over the winter. She had not received an answer on which department is financially responsible for treatment or replacement.

The members decided unanimously to cancel July's Conservation Commission meeting.

Adjournment

On a motion made by J. Jordan, and seconded by E. Stephenson, the meeting was adjourned at 7:16pm. All in favor (6-0).

Non-public Session

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

Respectfully,

Elizabeth Stewart, Land Use Clerk