

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Boscawen Municipal Complex

Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 17, 2019 @ 7:00 PM

Commissioners Present: Tom Gilmore Chair, Jeffrey Abbe, Norm LaPierre, Lyman Cousens, Brendon Jackson, Alternate and Henry Carrier, alternate member. Mark Kaplan arrived at 7:02 pm and Lorrie Carey arrived at 7:06 pm.

Also present: Kellee Jo Easler, Planning & Community Development Director, and Rose Fife, Recording Secretary

Meeting opened at 7 pm.

Site Walk GMI Map 81, Lot 24 Queen Street at 5 pm

- Public Meeting, open to all

Regular Business:

- Open by Chair 7 pm.
- Roll call by Chair
- Review and Acceptance of the August 20, 2019 Minutes. Motion to approve the Minutes was made by Cousens, seconded by LaPierre and passed by a unanimous vote.
- Accountant's Report – A review of the reports was made. Profit and Loss report shows a net income of \$22,176. The Forest Fund Balance sheet shows a balance of \$32,102.48.

Old Business:

- Natural Resource Update – The meeting will be 9.25.19.

New Business:

- Permits & Reviews – none.

Discussion regarding Site Walk - GMI Map 81, Lot 24 Queen Street at 5 pm

- The Board saw many improvements. A major issue was noticed: fill had been dumped into the wetland behind the delineation. Carrier, Jackson and Ed looked at it in more detail. Jackson looked more closely at it and it was noted that the fill had been there at least a month. There was a well-established game trail. Gilmore noted that there were many dump truck loads of fill there and it had been leveled off. It is an issue and GMI said they would clean it up right away. A motion needs to be made to authorize the Chairman to go back next week and review the dumping issue.

Lyman asked when the Planning Board was going out for a site visit. Easler thought they were not. The Planning Board are meeting on 10.1.19 so it will be discussed at that time.

Gilmore noted that they have to reclaim it so there will need to be a lot of effort to clean up the site. Lyman was under the impression that GMI knew about this. Easler thought GMI was not aware of it. Gilmore didn't believe GMI made a mistake because rocks were pushed out of the way and there were truckloads of fill there.

Carey explained that the Chair could ask the town engineer to go out once a year and spot check the site at GMI's expense, not the Town's. Gilmore felt that it was more appropriate for the Planning Board to take care

of that. The Conservation Commission is primarily concerned with the encroachment on the wetlands. Abbe mentioned to GMI that at their last visit 5 years ago there was to be signage and delineation placed. That was not done. It was suggested that there should be signage that indicates the wetland boundary and should not be crossed. Abbe saw at the bottom of the embankment there was a 4x4 painted posted. He believes that was an indicator of the phasing of delineation and he doesn't believe that was ever done. Abbe thought that if the Planning Board does go they need to see the phasing. It was noted that Engineers are more experts than the Planning Board. Underwood Engineering would be the engineering firm. Gilmore suggested that the Conservation Commission write a letter recommending to the Planning Board that they review the site on an annual basis by a licensed Engineer and it be done as soon as possible. If the Planning Board chooses not to do so, the Conservation Commission has the authority to do their own check on the encroachment into the wetlands.

Cousens was concerned with a statement Gilmore made at the site with regard that it was a management decision to make a mess out there. The Conservation Commission can't fault the management of GMI. He doesn't believe that the commission should make a statement that it was a management decision. Cousens thanked Carey's husband for being there as he asked a lot of good questions. Gilmore doesn't believe a truck driver did that mess. It was done by more than a truck driver. Carey feels it was positive that they stepped up and said they would correct the mess. Kellee will make an appointment for Gilmore to visit GMI next Wednesday at 5 pm. A **motion** that the Chair go to investigate the site on behalf of the Conservation Commission was made by Carey, seconded by Abbe and passed by a unanimous vote. Abbe suggested that signage be mentioned. Jackson suggested at least 150 feet between so that signs were visible from each sign location. It should be big enough for an equipment operator to read. Carrier suggested that a time frame be set to have them clean out the area. Gilmore will discuss it with GMI on Wednesday. He would like to speak with someone with authority there.

Kaplan – is having a meeting next week regarding Natural Resources.

Review of Mail: Post card from NHTOA. NHACC sent information regarding a workshop being held at Pembroke academy. There is a Land Use Conference in November. The Law Series is October 5th, which is a Saturday. Department of Environment Services wetland permit was received and read by Gilmore. It was for Knowlton Road from 8.21.19, after their last meeting. Timber Town Crier magazine was also in their mail. NHTOA puts the magazine out.

Forest Update – Abbe reported that they have reestablished the property line between Horizon Holdings and the Barnard Lot. It's been re-blazed and painted red today. They may want to discuss a hiking trail to the balancing rock. They only re-blazed and painted existing blazes. Gilmore asked Jackson to help Abbe with the Town Forest. Jackson agreed. Gilmore also talked about 2 lots they need to walk, one on Goodhue Road and his property. He'd like to ask if Jackson would look at the back line up by the water tower and they'd like to ask him to join them to walk the town line up behind the water tower which comes out on Route 4. LaPierre found an old fence line that they thought was the property line. Gilmore suggested later in October for the walk. Cousens said he'd like to wait until after the October Meeting. Kaplan would like to join them. Abbe recalls that they normally do Gilmore's property in November.

Kaplan asked if there were any updated on the Water Precinct. Gilmore reported that there is nothing new. Five Rivers is in the process of getting an appraisal on the property.

Abbe reported they had over 35 people walking through the Town Forest. Many from the Weir Family were there. Gilmore said they had 2 groups.

The Commission congratulated the chair for being part of the Upper River Merrimack and the Contoocook River Boards.

A **motion** to adjourn at 7:52 pm was made by Cousens, seconded by Carey and passed by a unanimous vote.

Next Meeting: October 15, 2019

*Respectfully submitted,
Rose Fife, Recording Secretary*