

Town of Milton
424 White Mtn Highway
Milton NH, 03851



Conservation Commission
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11/13/20
Meeting Minutes
4:30 PM
Conservation Special Meeting

Present Members: Cynthia Wyatt, Steve Panish, Wayne Sylvester, Virginia Long, Karen Golab, Deborah McCormack, Robert Weiss.

Absent Members: None

Staff Present: None

Staff Absent: Julius Peel

Public: None

Notice is hereby given in accordance with RSA 676:5 & 676:7 and the NH Governor's Emergency Order #23 that the **Milton Conservation Commission** will hold a special meeting on Friday, 11/13/2020 at 4:30PM remotely, using the Zoom web-based platform where members will not be physically present at one meeting location. All discussion must be audible for citizens viewing or listening to the meeting through Zoom services (computer or phone).

Computer: to participate or listen using a computer to the live meeting on Friday, 11/13/2020 at 4:30 PM go this link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84712622761?pwd=YnNkbW5mSzI3TEhHNHJMSWZqNThudz09>
Meeting ID: 847 1262 2761
Passcode: 1my1PZ

For Telephone:
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
Meeting ID: 847 1262 2761
Passcode: 498023

When you click on the link, you will see a message that this is Deborah McCormack's Personal Meeting Room, since we are using Deb's Zoom business account. Please mute your microphone while others are speaking in order to reduce unwanted background noise or feedback and wait until the Chair call on you to speak. To facilitate audible discussion, we will go around the room for each

guest, committee member or member of the public comments for each agenda item and before any vote. If you want to interject a comment out of turn, please stay mute but raise or wave your hand to get the attention of the Chair to be called on to speak.

I. Call to Order:

4:35 PM Start. All members of the board were present. Cynthia called the special meeting to address the “No Hunting” signage for the Casey Road conservation property.

II. Reasons to temporarily not post "No Hunting" signs:

- The Commission is reconsidering its stance on immediately posting No Hunting signs, due to Jon Nute’s respected opinion in a recent email to not post the signs for various reasons.
- The MCC discussed the option of just posting at entrance and kiosk, Cynthia noted that if the perimeter of the property is not posted and only posted at the entrance, it might give visitors a false sense of security because hunters may not see the sign on the kiosk and enter at other points on the property
- Signs must be in compliance with state laws and be visible from any entry point and every 300 ft to be effective.
- Might discourage resident support for future conservation projects.
- Hunters must pass a safety course (for past 20 years) and should be conscientious about the area.
- Has always been open to hunting.
- Arrows and shotgun ammo only travel short distances and rifle bullets wouldn’t travel far through trees.
- It’s a relatively small area surrounded by houses and roads. Would a hunter want to hunt there?

III. Potential Warrant Article:

- After receiving Jon’s email, Cinny contacted Ernie about possibly letting the town decide through a vote and Ernie seemed to agree to that idea.
- Although the BOS has already agreed to “no hunting” on the property, as requested by the CRLPC, it has the right to change that, according to the Conservation Easement deed.

- The Commission wants to do the right thing for the residents and will concede on the “no hunting” policy if the town residents prefer that hunting be allowed.
- The Commission will temporarily cross out the “no hunting” clause on the kiosk sign if and when the BOS agree to allow hunting for now until the town vote
- Virginia will contact the school for an opinion as the Commission’s goal was to encourage the school to have school trips to allow children to walk the property and enjoy all that it offers for an outdoor experience. There are no trips scheduled for this fall.
- Cinny will contact Ernie on Monday to see if there is a possibility to have our request for a Warrant Article be placed on the agenda as “Other Business” for the BOS’s meeting on 11/16/20.
- If a Warrant Article is approved, the Commission will send letters to the abutters’ of the property to allow them to advocate for their opinion.
- Steve has agreed to propose the Warrant Article to the BOS.

Motion:

***Karen Golab motions to recommend to the BOS that a Warrant Article be placed on the 3/21/21 ballot asking residents whether they want to discontinue allowing hunting on the Casey Road Conservation property, Seconded by Wayne Sylvester. The vote is approved unanimously. The Motion Passes. ***

IV. Public Comment:

No Public Comment

Motion:

***Steve Panish motions to adjourn, Seconded by Bob Weiss. The vote is approved unanimously. The Motion Passes adjourning the meeting at 5:30pm. ***