

MILTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

PO BOX 310 MILTON, NH 03851 Meeting @ 6:00 PM, Wednesday, 8/2/2023 Milton Town Hall, 424 White Mountain Highway

Meeting Minutes

- 1. Welcome guests: Dan Bisson and Paul Berry
- 2. Ascertain who is present and approve alternates to serves as full members as needed: Virginia Long- Chair, Robert Weiss, Wayne Sylvester, Jeff LeClair and Lee Pilkovsky. Absent members: S Panish and Sharon Buttrick
 - V Long Calls the meeting to order at 6:02PM
 - V Long sat L Pilkovsky for S Panish
- 3. Event announcements:
 - Woods, Water & Wildlife Festival on Saturday, Aug 12, 10 − 3 at Branch Hill Farm, 307 Applebee Rd in Milton Mills: a family-friendly celebration of the great outdoors!
 - MCC-sponsored Turtle Walk w/ wildlife biologist Josh Megyesy, Saturday, Aug 19 @ 9 am on town-owned conservation land on Rocky Point, families welcome! For parking directions, email mcc@miltonnh-us.com
 - Planning Board Meeting, Tuesday, Aug 15 @ 6 pm to continue discussion of changes to Wetlands ordinance
 - ZBA meeting, Thursday, Aug 24 @ 6 pm about Tayzach Realty variance application, but no further public comments
- 4. Display/circulate MCC mail and CC materials for lending (sign-out sheet): No new mail
- 5. Review/Approve 7/5/2023 meeting minutes with corrections (sent out in advance): W Sylvester made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections. J LeClair second. All were in favor. L Pilkovsky abstained.
- 6. Financial Report: V Long presented the financial report to the board. The finance dept sent a detailed run of the budget and an expenditure report. We have used \$946 of our \$6,125 budget so far this year. \$5,179 remains in the budget. No new expenditures in the Conservation Fund and we are getting more interest as rates are up. Conservation Fund- Unrestricted- \$99,843. Conservation fund for monitoring is \$16,176. Conservation fund for legal defense is \$4,483. S

Panish requested that if there were any new expenses to please send the bills to him and has requested invoices from all the organizations that the MCC belongs to that have not already been paid. So far MMRG is the only one that has sent in an invoice. Waiting on SELTS and NHACC have not sent one in yet. The remaining money in the membership budget is \$650. We think all of that is going to go to Organizations we belong to with outstanding memberships. All the \$67 that's left in the miscellaneous budget for signs and trails maintenance and stuff will probably be spent. \$18 for mailings will be used up after the meeting for letters being sent out to people. We have committed \$18.50 for Chris Kane monitoring. That totals \$2,585 which will leave \$2,594 in the budget. Some more expenses would be to hire a contractor to clean up the Ball property.

J LeClair made a motion to accept the financial report. W Sylvester second. All were in favor.

7. Wetlands and Shoreland Permit Applications OR Violations: Wetlands Permit-By-Notification application. For 270 Bolan Rd. Paul Berry, the homeowner, and Dan Bisson, here to help Mr. Berry with the paperwork. The MCC had a few questions they wanted clarified. Discussion on what the homeowner is planning to do and what some of the materials they are going to use will be for the wall and the patio. The Chair explained the MCC's role in this application.

8. Wetlands protections:

- Report on Planning Board review of Wetlands Ordinance suggested changes: S Panish went to the planning board meeting on the ongoing discussion on the Wetlands Ordinance on August 1, 2023.
- Next steps
- 9. Organization of guided Turtle Walk with Josh Megyesy: Fliers have been handed out. This will be on the Ball property. The Chair suggests a maximum number of 15 people to attend. J LeClair handed out all the fliers at the TPPA concert on the beach on August 1, 2023, about 20-30 fliers. The board
- 10. Trail Volunteers Group Update: J LeClair went to the BOS and was provided with new and updated permitted and prohibited signs with the additional language of no alcohol and bicycling allowed unless posted. They have no problem with J LeClair monitoring the Casey Rd parking area. He can close the lot if it is too wet/muddy to drive on. The Town Administrator asked if the MCC was planning on closing the trail at dusk, that is not something the MCC wants to do because of the night activities that periodically are done there. There was some vandalism done on the sign at Casey Rd. Looks like a rock was thrown at it and put a small hole. J LeClair put some clear gorilla tape of the hole so the rain couldn't get in. Someone donated a bench. Mr. John Nute walked the new proposed trail at Casey Rd. He didn't see any wetlands that needed DES notification. He was concerned about possible trespassing on the abutters land where the old bridge straddles the boundary between the Chandlers privately owned land and the town property. A new sign is posted at Jones Brook Park. J LeClair discovered that the Broad Leaf Dock it's hard to eradicate, roots grow 5 feet down, spreads by seeds and its edible. Instead of trying to eradicate it he is trying to keep it trimmed so it doesn't go to seed.

11. Town-owned Easements and Conservation lands:

FEE PROPERTIES:

• Confirm plan to 'monitor' each of these in 2023:

- CASEY RD CONSERVATION LAND: MMRG monitors
- <u>JONES BROOK PARK/PAYNE</u>: Gets enough eyes on it from the board and Mike is always out there.
- SPAULDING TURNPIKE: Went out as a board.
- <u>DAMES BROOK</u>: Bob monitors and isn't sure when he can get out there.
- OLD SKI AREA: S Panish and V Long started working on this property.
- <u>BALL PROPERTY:</u> Review Sharon's monitoring report. *W Sylvester made a motion to accept S Buttrick's report. B Weis second. All were in favor.*

Letters to encroachers of town-owned conservation lands: Found 3 people that were putting some yard waste, storing canoes, grass is growing onto the land.

EASEMENTS: No Reports

- Label and sign monitoring notification letters to easement landowners
- Communications with Kane Conservation (Virginia)
- FRIZZELL Kane monitors
- LANCEY WARD Kane monitors
- LAVALLIERE Kane monitors
- LYMAN BROOK Kane monitors
- SILVER SPRINGS Kane monitors
- WALLACE WAY Kane monitors
- NUTE HAYBARN AND PLANTATION EASEMENTS Kane monitors
- LIBERTY CIRCLE Nute monitors
- CURRENT Steve monitors
- Follow-up with encroaching landowners
- 12. Teneriffe Mt Forest stream crossing project: TU asked for MCC Letter in support of ARM and NRCPP grants: No Updates
- 13. Tayzach Realty requested a variance to build two houses on one lot: Map 5/Lot 7 on Willey Rd: The MCC wants to ask if the public hearing could be reopened.
- 14. Report on TPPA / MCC joint educational outreach: (Virginia I am not sure where Wayne was for this?) Sold store merchandise so people were coming up and asked questions on what all the pamphlets were. Trail locator maps, joint letter between the TPPA and MCC that tells people about how to protect the lake water, pumping your septic, not letting your dog poop in the water, The Turtle walk handout and a letter about conserving land were handed out.

Jill Eldridge from MMRG emailed V Long asking why the MCC doesn't have a table at the Woods, Water & Wildlife Festival. V Long thinks they should be there next year joint with TPPA.

The concert on the beach went well

- 15. Recruitment of new Alternate members ANY NEW SUGGESTIONS?
- 16. Workshop reports: W Sylvester was asked to speak at Mousam Lake Association. Laurie

Callaghan from the York County Invasive Aquatic Species Program she had suggested to call W Sylvester to speak. They found an invasive plant.

- 17. Virginia's report, including communications to MCC:
- 18. Other business: V Long asked if Robyn Shumaker, a new possible volunteer, would be interested in leading a Forest Bathing workshop.
- 19. Public input: Public already commented.
- 20. Confirm date of next month's meeting: Wednesday, September 6, 2023, at p.m.: Meeting will be at the old town hall.
- 21. Adjourn: W Sylvester made a motion to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. B Weiss second. All were in favor.