

MILTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
PO BOX 310 MILTON, NH 03851
Meeting @ 6:00 PM, Wednesday, 9/6/2023
Milton Town Hall, 424 White Mountain Highway

Meeting Minutes

ATTENDANCE:

Members: Virginia Long (Chair), Steve Panish, Robert Weiss, Jeff LeClair

Alternates: Sharon Buttrick, Lee Pilkovsky

Absent: Wayne Sylvester,

Public: Robin Schumaker

1. Welcome guests: Robin Schumaker
2. Ascertain who is present and approve alternates to serves as full members as needed:
V Long sat Lee Pilkovsky in for Wayne Sylvester
3. Event announcements:
 - September 9 @ 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm MMRG's Fall Mountaintop Family Stargazing Teneriffe Mt in Milton, please pre-register.
 - September 30, 2023, MMRG Hawk Watch with Scott Weidensaul at the Birch Ridge Community Forest.
4. Possible MCC event: Forest Therapy/Bathing Walk with Robin Schumaker: Robin gave a summary on what he offers and what forest therapy is. He can do a class of up to 12 people. Board members approved the MCC to sponsor this event on a Saturday morning in October.
5. Display/circulate MCC mail and CC materials for lending (sign-out sheet): No new mail
6. Review/Approve 8/2/2023 meeting minutes with corrections (sent out on 8/17/2023):
R Weiss made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections. L Pilkovsky seconded. All were in favor. S Panish abstained.
7. Financial Report: The only major change from last month was two payments of \$5000 from Conservation Fund for two different conservation projects, as previously pledged to MMRG. S Panish has requested invoices for the dues for all the organizations that MCC has memberships in. He has paid for some of them. Discussion on which memberships have been paid and what hasn't. There is \$3857 in the professional services line in the budget. \$1850 for monitoring and about \$1000 for water testing so that leaves about \$1000 to hire someone to clean up the Ball Property.
J LeClair made a motion to approve the financial report. R Weiss seconded. All were in favor.
8. Wetlands and Shoreland Permit Applications OR Violations, if any: There were no new applications or violations.
9. Wetlands protections:

- Report on Planning Board review of Wetlands Ordinance suggested changes from last PB meeting minutes: “Continued discussion on the wetland conservation article in the zoning ordinance. The Planner went through the changes of the ordinance. The next step in putting the ordinance together is to get the close-up GIS maps showing more precise significant wetland area boundaries in conjunction with parcel lines and structures which will assist the Board in determining whether to go with the addition of increased buffers for the aforesaid four significant wetland areas or not.” Discussion of Ordinance restoration requirement and what kind of time frame for completion and possible penalty should be set.
- MCC to pay for Map of Priority Wetlands to go in Zoning Ordinance?
S Panish made a motion to spend up to \$300 for mapping of the Wetlands Conservation Overlay District to go in the Zoning Ordinance. L Pilkovsky second. All were in favor.
- STEEP SLOPES ORDINANCE?

10. Letter of Support for SRPC grant application to create Watershed Management Plan for Milton 3 Ponds: *S Panish made a motion to approve the letter that V Long wrote. R Weiss seconded. All were in favor.*

11. Report on 8/19/23 MCC Turtle Walk with Josh Megyesy: 10 people showed up for the walk. Four people cancelled. One of the participants wants to talk to Josh about improving the turtle habitat on her land. The whole thing went nicely. Post 3 signs stating to not let dogs in the water. Posted pictures on the Facebook page.

12. Town-owned Easements and Conservation lands:

FEE PROPERTIES:

- AS WE GO THRU, REVIEW Plan to ‘monitor’ each of these in 2023. The MCC plan is to make sure someone goes out to each property this year.
- CASEY RD CONSERVATION LAND: J LeClair and Mike monitor
- JONES BROOK PARK/PAYNE: J LeClair and Mike monitor
- SPAULDING TURNPIKE: L Pilkovsky and V Long went on Saturday 9/2/2023. L Pilkovsky did a great job on his report. When they were there, they saw a lot of evidence of ATVs on the trails and in the wetlands. L Pilkovsky suggested contacting the snowmobile club to see if they would be willing to help channel off the trails. V. Long called them and they are willing to work with the CC because they want to be able to ride their snowmobiles out there. They are also willing to put a gate up. V. Long also called NH Fish and Game, and they were unaware of ATV’s going through the wetlands, so they are going to go out to put up signs prohibiting ATV’s.
- DAMES BROOK: Need to get this monitored this fall. R Weiss is planning on going out in September. Possibly Columbus Day weekend.
- OLD SKI AREA: V Long inquired if anyone wants to go monitor this with her. L Pilkovsky expressed interest if available and S. Panish said he would go. R. Schumaker was also interested.
- BALL PROPERTY
 1. Consider contractors to clean up old dumping sites: V Long went out with Stephen Duchesneau to show him what needs to be cleaned up. V Long also contacted Pat Smith to see if he could help clean up but Pat is too busy. This may need to wait until next year or go over budget, since DPW will not take the waste. More discussion on where they could pull money

from in the budget to be able to hire someone to do this.

2. Follow-up on encroachments
3. STILL NEED TO FOLLOW UP ON GUSTITUS AND UNKNOWN OWNER OF YARD DEBRIS CIRCLE/ATV, ALSO ON BOAT STORAGE ISSUE Virginia will ask BOS if they would like MCC to follow up with Gustitus

EASEMENTS: Kane Conservation Monitoring to take place 9/12 & 9/13

- FRIZZELL
- LANCEY WARD (ISSUE WITH DISAPPEARING MONUMENTS – KANE WILL DOCUMENT WHICH ONES ARE FOUND) **
- LAVALLIERE
- LYMAN BROOK **
- SILVER SPRINGS
- WALLACE WAY
- NUTE HAYBARN AND PLANTATION EASEMENTS
- LIBERTY CIRCLE – Nute monitors **
- CURRENT – Steve monitors
- Letters to ENCROACHING landowners

13. Trail Volunteers Group Update: Mike wants to proceed with the new trail on Casey Rd. He will be going out tomorrow 9/7 once J LeClair gives him the ok. They were waiting for a response to a letter sent to an abutter but hadn't heard anything yet. J LeClair discovered who left the bench on Casey Rd. An old neighbor used to walk to the trails with her dogs on the other side of Governors Rd on Johnathon Nutes trails and had seen benches there so sent an email to Johnathon Nute and he donated the bench. J LeClair is donating some pressure treated wood to the MCC. The Cardinal Flowers are out at Jones Brook.

14. Teneriffe Mt Forest stream crossing project:

15. Tayzach Realty request for variance to build two houses on one lot: Map 5/Lot 7 on Willey Rd: ZBA meeting on September 28,2023

16. Report from TPPA (Wayne) including MCC joint educational outreach (Virginia)

17. Recruitment of new Alternate members: Please ask around to see if anyone is interested in joining.

18. Workshop reports if any

19. Virginia's report, including communications to MCC :

20. Other business

21. Public input: No public

22. Confirm date of next month's meeting: Wednesday, October 4, 2023, at 6 p.m.

23. Adjourn: *S Panish made a motion to go into a non-public meeting and to adjourn the public meeting at 7:50 p.m. L Pilkovsky seconded. All were in favor.*