GILFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes for February 16, 2021

Conference Room A and Zoom Video Conference

Under the emergency order provision related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ATTENDANCE

On Video Conference were: Chairman- Carole Hall, Vice Chairman - Lee Duncan, Regular Members Doug Hill, and Larry Routhier

Members Absent: Regular members Tom Drouin and John Jude and Alternate John Goodhue.

The Steering Committee for the Weeks parcel were welcomed. Russell Wilder, Weston Bosworth, Al Rollins, Mark Kinnicutt and David Mallard

Also on Zoom: Tim Nolin

ESTABLISH A QUORUM: Carole Hall announced that a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by L. Routhier, seconded by L. Duncan to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by L. Routhier, seconded by D. Hill that the meeting will end no later than 9:00pm.

Motion carried with all in favor.

D. Hill said that he sent out an email with regard to the Week’s property and the Steering Committee. It listed a few things as to what we might want to discuss, and what we can do and what we need to do. Such as discussing, do we build a parking area and if so how do we go about doing so?

PRESENTATIONS:

1) Tim Nolin, Town Forester, Forest Management for discussion on the Weeks Parcel on Belknap Mountain Road, including Steering Committee.

Tim Nolin said what his thoughts were on the property although his exposure was limited.

The forest appears young. There is the field area and needs to be maintained probably late in summer early fall. You will want to take care of it before it grows if you want to keep it as a meadow. If the town wants, there is probably a NH Fish and Game grant program and that is something the town would be eligible for with regard to small animals. In terms of active management less than 40-year old growth, there is some areas of forest that you can cut and trim particularly near the Jonson’s property.

He said that we could definitely consider those trees hazardous. He would say in terms of the town if you want something on file, we could do a site assessment and a boundary line survey, in terms of a plan and a map. It just seems that it might not be the best expenditure of money at this point if you don’t need to have it done. It just something to think about, maybe trail work is where you spend that money right now.

R. Wilder said that they did base line work and that’s available at Lakes Region Conservation Trust.

C. Hall said so we know there are some issues by the Jonson’s property, were there any others?

T. Nolin said that there are some areas that need attention, but it’s kind of the natural way of the woods.

D. Hill said that Ron Johnson actually did the survey of northwestern corner where the house is located. T. Nolin replied that they were just looking for permission to cut those trees down by the property line.

D. Hill stated that he would like T. Nolin to stay involved. D. Hill said to T. Nolin that you indicated that you could do a Forestry Plan and what should we do to get you to start with that.

T. Nolin said that he could come up with a forestry plan with a quick map and I could send you the invoice for $800.00.

D. Hill said that it would be essential to have that report so that we can figure out what we need to do or how to manage the property. T. Nolin said that he could get an invoice out before the next meeting.

R. Wilder said that there are historic uses on the property that people have continued to use in one form or another. Really, the scenery is the value of this property and gives the character of Gilford. How it appears and how it looks and how it makes people feel is most important. We have to come up with something that works for the town and the people living there and it’ll be something that we can manage and keep it as simple as possible.

C. Hall said that she was thinking about a sign, and Mrs. Weeks does like the idea. D. Hill said that he would think we could have a map type kiosk with an arrow pointing to you are here. C. Hall has been in touch with Lisa Morin, Belknap County Conservation District.

A. Rollins said that the road is washed out in a few places. D. Hill was wondering if BRATTS had ever looked these trails.

Discussion ensued.

D. Hill said that to get the committee and most of whom are on the call and that L. Routhier once again has blessed us with his zoom capabilities. The Conservation Commission meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays. L. Routhier said that Wednesday and Thursdays are wide open for him. C. Hall said that you could meet before a Conservation Commission meeting, say at 6pm. D. Hill asked about 6pm on March 2nd and the committee members agreed that it would work. Maybe we should ask if Lisa Morin and the crew might be available for the March 2nd meeting.

D. Hill said that it’ll have to be after the snow melts that we can get out there anyway, and we’ll need to know what type of birds are out there as well.

Mark asked about the construction of the parking lot and how it would be funded. D. Hill said that we might be able to get contributions, but we’ll have to see.

D. Hill said the problem is that the first 100 feet is quite steep, the curb cut is okay.

D. Hill said that the Steering Committee is a body that is a statutory, and it’s bound by the rules of the right to know law. Which means you have to post the notice, and the meeting has to be open to the public, and minutes have to be taken. D. Hill said that he would make sure that we do things consistent with the town’s policy.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman-Carole Hall called the meeting to order 7:55 p.m.

APPLICATIONS:

1. Standard Dredge & Fill, Wetlands Permit Application for Faith Family at 6 Jolly Island.

C. Hall read the description for the members. The members reviewed the application.

Motion made L. Routhier, seconded by L. Duncan to recommend approval as per plans and application. Motion carried with all in favor.

2. Standard Dredge & Fill, Wetlands Permit Application for Daniel & Katheryn Hubley at 132

Scenic Drive.

C. Hall read the project description for everyone, and described the plan. D. Hill said that a boat tide up to the dock is going to get it with the winds and the waves. D. Hill said they’ll probably come back to us to add the pilings.

Discussion ensued.

Motion by L. Duncan, seconded by D. Hill to accept as per plans and application. C. Hall said that she could add a note with regard to the exposure. Motion carried with all in favor.

3. Standard Dredge & Fill, Wetlands Permit Application for James Olsen at 400 Edgewater Drive.

C. Hall read the proposed description for everyone. The members reviewed the application

Motion made by L. Routhier, seconded by L. Duncan to recommend approval as per plans and application. Motion carried with all in favor.

4. Standard Dredge & Fill, Wetlands Permit Application for August Shaw 1991 REV Trust c/o Jill Shaw at 3 Camp Island.

C. Hall read the proposed description for the members. The members reviewed the application.

L. Routhier thought that it looked like a good plan. L. Duncan didn’t see the elevations, and there is a lot of lake movement out there, many boats throw up a lot of water there.

D. Hill we ought to recommend that they raise the grade because they might be sorry if they don’t. C. Hall said that she would send them a note

Motion made by L. Duncan, seconded by L. Routhier for the discussion. He said that in looking at the map, there a line shown that goes through it, which says 506.4. We just recommend that the finished elevation of the wall be at least 18” above of the lake.

Motion carried with all in favor.

5. Standard Dredge & Fill, Wetlands Permit Application for Douglas & Deborah Folsom at 208 Scenic Drive

C. Hall read the proposed description for everyone. The members reviewed the application.

C. Hall said that when you look at the proposed you can see the existing dock, so it is a bit of an increase but its seems as though they have the frontage for it.

D. Hill said that it’s clearly only 3 slips which would fit on the frontage and they do meet the requirement.

Motion made by D. Hill, seconded by L. Routhier to recommend approval as per application. Motion carried with all in favor.

6. Standard Dredge & Fill, Wetlands Permit Application for Mark Luchini at 3020 Lake Shore Road.

C. Hall read the project description for everyone. The members reviewed the application.

They are decreasing the amount of impact to the property by removing that huge breakwater. D. Hill said that this is the first time he’s ever seen heard of wanting to take out the breakwater. L. Routhier asked how they would be removing that breakwater. L. Duncan said that they would probably want to remove it and then re-use it. L. Routhier said that with boatlifts, they can just remove them and so they won’t need the breakwater. D. Hill said that his is pointed straight northeast. L. Duncan that’s why we would want the breakwater right there.

C. Hall read that that they will transport the breakwater rocks to a NH DES jurisdiction.

Motion made by L. Routhier, seconded by L. Duncan to recommend approval as per application. Motion carried with all in favor.

NON-PUBLIC: nothing to discuss

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Johnson wind damage (if needed)

Discussed with T. Nolin earlier in the meeting.

2. Hedgewood Circle

L. Duncan said that Dean Clark will be working on the survey, sometime in the spring.

3. Other

Discussion as to the Week’s property with regard to a kiosk and a ceremony.

CORRESPONDENCE / WORKSHOPS**:** none

MINUTES:

The minutes of January 19, 2021 were postponed until the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by L. Routhier, seconded by L. Duncan to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 pm. Passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Hart, Technical Assistant