GILFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes for October 5, 2021

Conference Room A and GoToMeeting Video Conference

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ATTENDANCE

On Video Conference: Regular Doug Hill

Present were: Chairman- Carole Hall, Vice Chairman - Lee Duncan, Regular Members Larry Routhier and Tom Drouin and Alternate member John Goodhue and Robert Brown

Absent members were: none

CALL TO ORDER:​ Chairman-Carole Hall called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.​

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by L. Routhier, seconded by T. Drouin to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

Gary Kiedaisch, Brian Gallagher, Steve Weeks, Sr., Rep. Mike Sylvie, Rep. Ray Howard and Tom Day were present to discuss the potential for Gunstock Mountain Resort.

G. Kiedaisch explained that the newest lift is 20 years old and that Gunstock really needs to get moving and making some improvements. They would like to add a new lift, and it’s going to be about 6 million, and we’ve made enough money for ½ of a quad lift. We need to find other ways to make money. We do need an updated quality lift system.

He discussed expanding the terrain.

Tom Day said that he’s been in the ski business for 46 years, and we discussed adding more lifts and expanding the terrain. There’s a whole lot of things that need to be done.

C. Hall asked if there were any easements. G. K. said that there are easements but they don’t limit the recreational use. D. Hill went over the explanation of the easements,

C. Hall asked if they had an attorney on their commission. We have not asked our attorney for an interpretation replied G. Kiedaisch.

S. Weeks said that the town wanted to do the Conservation Easement, so we sold 254 acres to them and I’m realizing that Gunstock could use that in the future. He feels that Gunstock needs more and that this side of the mtn. offers a lot more than the rest of the area. It would improve Gunstock Ski Area and Belknap County.

D. Hill stated that they could contact Jack Savage the head of the Forest Society.

G. K. wanted to know where the hot spots that we should be aware about are.

J. Goodhue was guessing that the proposed trails would be more on the backside of the mtn. towards the village. He would love to see it happen, but can it happen is the question.

L. Duncan wanted to know if they would be adding bathroom facilities at the lower area, no it’s at the top. And are you going to have parking in that area? No, there won’t be replied T. Day.

C. Hall asked if they would be need to add a pond for water. T. Day said that they have plenty of water for this expansion. We do have a ROW over Ellacoya and if we ever need water, we can get it from the lake.

Discussion and presentation ensued.

T. Drouin said that this is very exciting and looks forward to seeing the additional information as it comes in

J. Goodhue thinks that this proposal will be a win win for everyone involved. This area can be a destination resort and we have the right people behind it.

R. Brown suggested adding additional campsites in the area. T. Day said that they currently have 299 sites but we they do fill up quite often.

R. Brown was thinking maybe something more along the lines that they could hike up to it and camp out. T. Day said that they have looked into some huts, and lean-to and things like that on the trails.

D. Hill said that you need to look carefully at the idea of having housing at Gunstock, there’s been discussion in the past, but what we said was that we I might not work legally because we can’t due to the preservation and there are federal rights. If you use the alpine ridge, which is completely private land, it would be entirely different. You should probably look into that.

G. K. said that thank you for bringing that up and you’re right on point. There is a cost to pay back for those investments and you can relieve yourself from those restrictions, it’s similar to current use. There is a way to make it, but it does cost money.

**NON-PUBLIC:**

(If Needed) Non-public Session Per RSA 91-A:3 II (d) Consideration of the acquisition, sale, or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community.

Motion made by T. Drouin, seconded by L. Duncan to go into non-public session. Roll call was taken. Motion carried with all in favor.

Motion made by T. Drouin, seconded by L. Duncan to come out of non-public. No action was taken in non-public.

APPLICATIONS

1. Wetland Permit Application, Standard Dredge & Fill at 5 Pristine Way, Tax Map & Lot #242-209.000.

C. Hall read the application proposal for everyone. The members reviewed the application and found no issues.

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

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. NHACC Membership Dues $650.00

Motion made by L. Duncan, seconded by T. Drouin to pay the invoice for $650.00 for the membership dues. Motion carried with all in favor.

2. Weeks parcel update

D. Hill stated that when he gets back he can meet with R. Brown at the site and check it out.

3. Budget 2022 planning

L. Duncan stated that he had the budget meeting this week and there was a change and he’s updated the information and everyone should have the updated report.

4. Hedgewood update

L. Duncan stated that Dean Clark was out doing his fieldwork last week and he’s working on the plan.

5. NRI Update

C. Hall stated that we are at the end of the road with this update. C. Hall went over the email that she received. Motion made by T. Drouin, seconded by L. Duncan to authorize $885.00 to be paid when the invoice comes in. D. Hill said that we would definitely be interested in getting this in electronic form if possible. C. Hall will check into that. Motion carried with all in favor

6. Smith Cove Milfoil

L. Duncan stated that he will discuss it with them to get an invoice into us.

8. Other

CORRESPONDENCE/ WORKSHOP

C. Hall went over the latest correspondence for the members.

MINUTES: none

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion made by T. Drouin, seconded by L. Routhier adjourn the meeting of October 5, 2021 at 8:50 pm. Motion carried with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Hart, Technical Assistant