

Gilford Conservation Commission
Minutes for June 2, 2009 Meeting

1. ATTENDANCE

Members Present: Vice-Chairman, Lee Duncan; Donald Sibson; Everett McLaughlin; Tom Drouin; Larry Routhier; Douglas Hill; Chuck Coons; Carole Hall and Terry Stewart.

Members Absent: Chairman- John Goodhue, Rudy Lehr, and Paula McDonald.

Also Present: Stephanie Verdile Philibotte, Technical Assistant; Selectmen, Kevin Hayes; Paul Fluet, agent representing Meadows Standard Dredge & fill application; Meadows Committee and School Board members and staff: Mark Corry, Herb Greene, Tim Drew, Sue Allen; Kurt Webber. Public: Sue Green, Andy Howe.

Call meeting to order:

The meeting was called to order by L. Duncan at 7:02 p.m.

Establish a Quorum

L. Duncan announced a quorum has been established.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion made by L. Routhier, seconded by T. Drouin, to approve the agenda as presented.
Motion carried with all in favor.

2. APPLICATIONS:

- 1 **Standard Dredge & Fill application, Gilford SAU #73, Intervale Rd./Route 11B, Gilford Tax Map & Lot #224-018.000**
Applicant proposes to impact a total of 12,398 temporary and permanent wetland impacts in order to develop 17 contiguous acres of 61.9 acres into athletic fields located at Intervale Rd. and NH Route 11B.

Discussion:

P. Fluet explained the Standard Dredge & Fill application was submitted to NHDES and they had been notified the application is administratively complete. He said they are scheduled to appear at the June 15, 2009 Planning Board meeting to present the application to the public and the Planning Board. He discussed some of the Commission's main concerns as follows.

Prime Wetland: He reviewed the plan and identified the six wetlands on site and reviewed the location of the Prime Wetland. He said the Prime Wetland location is based on the Town of Gilford's official map that is on record with the town and the NHDES. He said it was digitized on to the plans and its location is correct. He said the athletic fields are 450' away from the Prime Wetland. The closest they will come to a section of the Prime Wetland is about 120' for the t-ball fields and he said they will not need drains or severely alter the area there.

Monitoring wells: He discussed the monitoring wells and reviewed the data from 2005-2006. He said they have monitored the site for two spring seasons, once in the fall and once in February. He said they have not monitored the wells for an entire growing season. He said only six of the twelve wells on site are in proximity to the project.

Function and Value report: He discussed a function and value was not completed and said they would leave it up to NHDES to decide if one was needed.

Request for a Site Walk: He said they would participate in a site walk if one is scheduled.

He continued reviewing the plans and explained there will be under drains with the changes they have made. He explained one of the main catch basins will be 5' in diameter and have the ability to pump water out to recycle for irrigating. There will be underground storage tanks to hold the water. They will also drill a well by the concession stand for drinking water.

He reviewed the outflow pipes that will be located along Route 11. There are two (2) 48" pipes to handle the flow. He said Lake Winnepesaukee cannot flow back into the site because of the ditches along Route 11.

The runoff from the parking lot will be collected and sent through a vegetated treatment swale. They are not filling in a lot of the site and designing and treating the parking lot according to the NHDES regulations and because of that, P. Fluet said they received the Alteration of Terrain permit from the NHDES. He said the pre and post development runoff levels will not change.

C. Hall asked how much of the proposed project is in the federally recognized floodplain. P. Fluet said the parking lot and football field are in the floodplain.

L. Duncan opened the hearing for public input.

Andy Howe, abutter, said even though he will always be opposed to development of the site, he is relieved to see the plan reduce impacts to the environment and is satisfied with the plans.

Sue Green, citizen- is concerned if the land is disturbed, all the silt will run into the Lake and the Adder Hole. She said the area is designated as a scenic vista in the Master Plan and the area should remain that way with no development.

D. Hill noted for the record that P. Fluet had to leave the meeting and would like S. Green to have a written response from P. Fluet to her question about siltation from the site.

Terry Stewart, citizen- Wants it to be clear that that scenic vista will be changed forever due to the fields being disturbed and developed.

Sue Green- asked how much the project will cost.

The Conservation Commissioners and the Meadows Committee members said they do not know

how much the project will cost.

With no other input from the public, L. Duncan closed the public hearing.

2 **Brad Hall, Gilford Tax Map & Lot #219-006.007**

Applicant proposes to construct a perched beach.

Discussion:

The Commissioners discussed the application and noted it shows a proposed dock that will be filed under a separate application. L. Duncan said there was a letter from the abutter acknowledging the project.

Motion made by C. Coons, seconded by L. Duncan, to release the hold and recommend approval of the application with normal siltation devices in place prior to construction.

Motion carried with all in favor.

3. **Janice Carine, Gilford Tax Map & Lot #242-217.000**

Applicant proposes to construct a perched beach, add a 30' finger to the existing dock and install a 14' x 30' seasonal canopy.

Discussion:

The Commissioners discussed the application and noted the terrain is steep and the project should not interfere with abutters' views. They noted the abutters were notified and there seems to be no objections.

Motion made by D. Hill, seconded by T. Drouin, to release the hold and recommend approval of the application with normal siltation devices in place prior to construction.

Motion carried with all in favor

4. **Belknap County, Gunstock, Gilford Tax Map & Lot #254-139.000 719 Cherry Valley Rd.**

Applicant proposes to construct a new lift and 4 new beginner rails that includes tree clearing and stumping, re-grade a small wetland area and have 6-8 tree stumps pulled and leveled, and relocate a stream.

Discussion:

Doug Irving, representing Gunstock, explained the need to construct a new lift for the beginner skiers and for safety reasons. They are looking to relocate a section of stream and extend a catch basin in order to create the new trails and lift system. They have been working with the NHDES from the beginning and are prepared to do all mitigation necessary. He said the improvements will allow them to culvert and cover a brook that is in the direct sunlight, which will be helping the environment. He explained they have been working with NHDES and submitted a waiver for the amount of impact they have proposed. He explained they plan to relocate electrical transformers from the sedimentation pond.

T. Drouin has been on site and said the safety issue is a major concern and he understands the need for the proposed improvements for the beginner skiers and Gunstock staff.

D. Hill asked if this plan will solve the environmental and safety issues they are looking to correct. T. Drouin said yes he believes this plan will address the environmental and safety issues they are looking to correct.

Motion made by T. Drouin, seconded by C. Coons, to the recommend approval with normal siltation devices in place prior to construction. Motion carried with E. McLaughlin abstaining.

3. PRESENTATIONS: None at this time

4. MEADOWS PROJECT DISCUSSION: Alteration of Terrain Permit application

Discussion: Update on the appeal of the AOT permit.

The Commission discussed the deadline to submit information to Sandy Bailey in order to be on the Selectmen's agenda for their June 9th, 2009 meeting. John Goodhue and Lee Duncan will attend to ask the Selectmen to have the environmental lawyer representing the Town of Gilford in the Liberty Hill case, also represent the Commission in their appeal of the School's AOT permit.

L. Duncan opened up the discussion item for public input.

Andy Howe asked what the Commission was appealing. L. Duncan explained they are appealing the approval and he can review the appeal at the office.

With no further public input, L. Duncan closed the public input.

Motion carried with all in favor.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

Tim Nolin's work on Powell & Peverly property- The Commission would make recommendations to the Board of Selectmen because those forests are not official town forests.

The Commission could recommend that the Board of Selectmen place a warrant article on the ballot for March to have the forests accepted as town forests.

Motion made by D. Hill, seconded by T. Drouin, that the Conservation Commission recommend the Board of Selectmen accept Tim Nolin's proposal to authorize him to proceed with harvesting the forests as outlined in a letter dated May 22, 2009.

Discussion on the motion:

To make T. Nolin aware the forests are not under the Commission's control so the Commission has to make a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen. T. Nolin does not have to attend the

Selectmen's meeting.

Motion carried with all in favor.

6. THE MCLAUGHLIN REPORT

The Persons' open house was very successful.

7. MINUTES

Motion made by L. Routhier, seconded by T. Drouin to approve the minutes from May 19, 2009.

Motion carried with all in favor.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by L. Routhier, seconded by T. Drouin to adjourn at 8:55 PM. Motion carried with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Verdile Philibotte
Technical Assistant, Conservation Commission
Department of Planning & Land Use