

Gilford Conservation Commission
Minutes for August 3, 2010 Meeting

1. PLEDGE OF ALLIEGENCE

2. ATTENDANCE

Members Present: Chairman-John Goodhue, Vice-Chairman-Lee Duncan; Tom Drouin, Diane Hanley.

Members Absent: Everett McLaughlin, Carole Hall, Douglas Hill, Larry Routhier, Donald Sibson and Terry Stewart.

Others Present: Tom Babbit, North Country Rock Solid 4 x 4 Club. Peter Ames, Ames Farm.

Call meeting to order:

The meeting was called to order by J. Goodhue at 7:08 p.m.

Establish a quorum

J. Goodhue established a quorum. He appointed D. Hanley to replace absent regular member E. McLaughlin.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion made by T. Drouin, seconded by L. Duncan, to amend the agenda to include the presentation of Tom Babbit and hear him first. Motion carried with all in favor.

3. APPLICATIONS: None at this time.

5. PRESENTATIONS- Tom Babbit, North Country Rock Solid 4 x 4 Club

Discussion:

He spoke to the Commission about requesting limited access to the Whiteface property in return for the club to provide trail maintenance and even drainage improvements and repair where needed.

C. Coons spoke about the complaints they receive from the snowmobile club about the condition of the trails when 4-wheelers use the trails. T. Babbit said they are very responsible 4-wheelers and they help maintain the trails they are allowed to use.

The Commission would like to research the deed for the property to see if all terrain vehicles are even allowed. D. Hanley said the area and the trails are in need of attention. She spoke about the Commission working to maintain the property as part of the easement.

T. Drouin wants to check with Town Counsel first to see if it is allowed on the property.

The Commission has concerns about whether 4-wheeling is even allowed and they are concerned about attracting additional 4-wheelers that will be detrimental to the trails and property.

The Commission will ask D. Hill to review the deed to see if the 4-wheelers are allowed on Whiteface.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Wetlands Ordinance re-write committee.

Discussion:

S. Verdile Philibotte updated the Commission on the Planning Board's findings from their ordinance re-write committee. The Commission stated they are looking forward to meeting with the Planning Board to discuss this issue. S. Verdile Philibotte will provide a copy of the Planning Board's findings to the Commissioners. The Commission decided to have the subcommittee meet to discuss the Planning Board's findings before the entire Commission meets with the Planning Board.

Peter Ames, Ames Farm, asked about the definition of wetlands and said he doesn't know why his property is listed as wetlands when it is not wet all year. He is concerned about a 50' wetland setback because he lose use of his property.

D. Hanley reviewed the wetland criteria for P. Ames. S. Verdile Philibotte explained the 50' setback was not approved and used the example that a smaller setback could be proposed.

P. Ames thanked the Commission for their time.

Motion carried with all in favor.

2. NHDES Grant application.

Discussion:

S. Verdile Philibotte gave an update to the Commission and explained they are working with Pat Tarpey. The Commission suggested writing a letter to the Board of Selectmen explaining they are applying for a grant.

6. THE MCLAUGHLIN REPORT-by Everett McLaughlin

Discussion: None at this time.

7. MINUTES- July 20, 2010 meeting

Motion made by L. Duncan, seconded by T. Drouin, to approve the minutes from July 20, 2010 meeting as amended. Motion carried.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by L. Duncan, seconded by C. Coons, to adjourn at 8:21 p.m. Motion carried with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Verdile Philibotte
Technical Assistant