

Gilford Conservation Commission  
Minutes for August 16, 2011 Meeting

**1. PLEDGE OF ALLIGIANCE**

**2. ATTENDANCE**

Members Present: Chairman-John Goodhue, Vice Chairman-Lee Duncan; Everett McLaughlin; Diane Hanley, Carole Hall, and John Jude.

**Members Absent:** Tom Drouin, Douglas Hill, Larry Routhier, Chuck Coons, Don Sibson.

Others in attendance: Tom Babbit-North Country Rock Solid 4x4 Club.

**Call meeting to order:**

The meeting was called to order by J. Goodhue at 7:09 p.m.

**Establish a quorum**

J. Goodhue announced a quorum is established by appointing D. Hanley, J. Jude, and C. Hall to replace absent members T. Drouin, D. Hill and L. Routhier.

**Approval of Agenda:**

Motion made by L. Duncan, seconded by E. McLaughlin, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried with all in favor.

**3. APPLICATIONS:** None at this time.

**4. PRESENTATIONS-** Tom Babbit, North Country 4x4 Club.

**Discussion:**

T. Babbit and the Commissioners discussed doing a trail ride up Whiteface Mountain to observe the condition of the trails.

He explained to the Commissioners his club has been monitoring the area and identifying people making four-wheeler runs up the mountain. They have been updating websites in order to explain the area is not a free range area for people to use for four wheeling activities.

The Commission would like Tim Nolin involved in some of these discussions regarding the area and the damage the four-wheelers can do to the area. T. Babbit said they are allowed to have motorized vehicles on the property and they are working to police themselves and the area to prevent abuse to the trails by other four-wheelers. They are willing to work to put up signs to help protect the area. He said they have been working to repair trails in the Plymouth area in exchange for use of the trails and they would like to do the same in Gilford.

E. McLaughlin said since there was federal money involved in the purchase of the land, the decision to allow the four-wheeling activities may be up to the Board of Selectmen.

The Commissioners discussed organizing a trail ride with T. Babbit and his four-wheeling club to climb the mountain and inspect and observe the trails and the area. The Commissioners would like to see if Tim Nolin is available to attend.

The Commissioners and T. Babbit decided on the weekend of October 22-23 to organize the trail ride. They discussed inviting the Town Administrator and the Board of Selectmen.

S. Verdile Philibotte will be sending an email invitation to the named parties for the trail ride.

T. Babbit explained they have been working with contractors for supplies and machinery to help with the repairing the trails and drainage areas and he wondered if contributions made to the work they do can be classified as tax deductible as donations. E. McLaughlin said they would be willing to help work to help them with that.

**Action:** To complete a trail ride to inspect the condition of the property with Tom Babbit and invite Tim Nolin, the Board of Selectmen, and the Town Administrator. E. McLaughlin, J. Jude, L. Duncan, and D. Hill are the Commissioners going on the trail ride.

**Motion:** Motion made by E. McLaughlin, seconded by L. Duncan, to hold the trail ride with T. Babbit, and invite Tim Nolin, the Board of Selectmen, and the Town Administrator.  
Motion carried with all in favor.

## **5. OTHER BUSINESS**

### 1. 2012 Zoning Amendments

#### **Discussion:**

L. Duncan explained that John Edgar, Meredith Planner, would like to review the minutes from the August 1, 2011 joint work session with the Planning Board and the Conservation Commission. S. Verdile Philibotte will contact J. Edgar and provide the minutes.

The Commissioners discussed the need to clarify what provisions of the CSPA should or could be included into the re-write of Section 5.2.1. The Commission discussed getting together with K. Hayes to draft wording for some provisions; for example using the point system, setback requirements, impervious coverage, etc.

D. Hanley is working with the NH Association of Conservation Commissions to spread the word to other communities to join together to support legislation for the local communities to strengthen local regulations due to the changes in the CSPA.

The Commissioners will continue to work on the Steep Slope Ordinance and Section 5.2.1 amendments.

D. Hanley is looking into the costs of milfoil removal and sedimentation removal to be utilized in the amendment discussions.

The Commission would like to meet again with the Planning Board. S. Verdile Philibotte explained the Planning Board meets again on September 19 and may or may not have a work session on that date, it could depend on how many applications are submitted, and then next scheduled work session would be in October.

**2. Jay Aube CSPA meeting**

D. Hanley explained that Lisa Morin from the BCCD also booked the Gilford Community Church for a presentation for the revised CSPA workshop. She said there will be two sessions, one will be for the general public and one will be for municipal personnel. The Commission agreed to cancel the presentation at the September 6, 2011 Conservation Commission meeting that they had scheduled with J. Aube and instead attend the August 31, 2011 workshop at the church.

**6. THE MCLAUGHLIN REPORT-by Everett McLaughlin:** E. McLaughlin had one topic for discussion which necessitated going into Non-Public Session.

Non-Public Session

On a motion made by L. Duncan, seconded by J. Goodhue, the Commission voted to enter into 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. The motion carried on a roll call vote with J. Jude, C. Hall, E. McLaughlin, L. Duncan, J. Goodhue, and D. Hanley voting in favor.

The Commission discussed potential conservation easement property.

Motion made by L. Duncan, seconded by J. Goodhue, the Commission to exit Non-Public Session Per RSA 91-A:3 II (d). The motion carried on a roll call vote with J. Jude, C. Hall, E. McLaughlin, L. Duncan, J. Goodhue, and D. Hanley voting in favor.

**7. MINUTES-** July 19, 2011 meeting

Motion made by E. McLaughlin, seconded by L. Duncan, to approve the minutes from July 19, 2011 as amended. Motion carried with all in favor.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by L. Duncan, seconded by J. Jude, to adjourn at 8:27 p.m. Motion carried with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Verdile Philibotte  
Technical Assistant