

# **Wilton Conservation Commission**

PO Box 83 Wilton Town Hall, Wilton, NH 03086

## **MINUTES OF MEETING**

### **MONDAY – SEPTEMBER 9th 2013 – 7:00 PM**

The Wilton Conservation Commission held its regular monthly meeting on Monday, September 9th 2013, at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall Courtroom.

Lynne called the Meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

Laurence S. Coronis was not present, Jeff Stone was present.

There are also Abbot Hill Residents Present. Edwina & Mark Hastings (17 Pierce Lane), Sandy Fischer (524 Abbot Hill Road), Dave & Colleth Hubbard (485 Abbot Hill Road), Joe Gottstein, Laura Tyers-Gottstein (489 Abbot Hill Road) with concerns over the water situation on Abbot Hill.

Ian McSweeney,

Director of the Russell Farm and Forest Conservation Foundation is present at the meeting to discuss three active Wilton projects.

1) High Mowing School & Issac Frye Highway Lands, a significant conservation project for Wilton with < 100 Acres in five lots on the north facing side of Abbot hill. The land will not only be conserved to prevent development, a good portion will be used for agricultural use. Funding from Gov't for ½ but High Mowing still needs to come up with \$300,000. Selling easement of 60 Acres – 20 Open Land / 40 Acres Forest Land. Wraps around the campus, around the athletic fields to Issac Frye, Gage Road abuts northern side. (They are planning on doing fund raising events to cover this.) The Conservation Easement is close to final draft. WCC will receive a copy.

2) Temple / Wilton Farm (Four Corners Farm) Gage Road Field, three

Parcels. Will be maintained as farmland, and has to be farmed responsibly. First you are going from four land owners to two land owners, and the Town will benefit either way. Consider the NRCS – 30 days prior notice needed. The “Orchard” is protected NRCS holds easement, with exception of the Moheban piece with is protected still the same.

3) Tallarico Land, Russell Fund coordinating and working with Mr. Tallarico, but will not hold stewardship. The Society for the Protection of NH Forestry will maintain easement. Wilton needs a onetime financial endowment (Stewardship endorsement). Survey is underway, hope to have all completed by November 2013. Spencer mentioned that we will need a public hearing, to present the project for funding. Public needs to have 14 days’ notice for a meeting.

The Abbot Hill abutters’ voiced their concerns over the lack of well water currently. Also how the acquisition of the additional Easements’ and farming on Abbot Hill might make the water problem worse. Ian McSweeney offered to coordinate a meeting with all the parties involved. Lynne thanked everyone for bringing the water issue to the WCC as they were not aware of any. Lynne mentioned to the residents that if they had any information from the DES to please leave it at the Town Office WCC mailbox.

- Minutes – July & August Moved to next Meeting
- Budget & Expenditures – Review 2013 Expenditures. Lynne reminded the group that it was Budget time again. Lynne asked that the WCC think about ideas, presentation, and level of funding they will need before the Meeting.
- ZBA – No Meeting in August; No Upcoming Meeting for September
- Planning Board – No Meeting notes available
- Horseshoe – No Update
- Tree Cuttings / Stone Walls / Scenic Roads etc. – No Update
- Forest Management / Timber Harvests / Logging – No Update
- New Reservoir / Old Reservoir – Dams etc. – No Update

- Label Art Dam – No Update
- Violations & Complaints – Alan mentioned that Maple Street gate area needs to be cleaned up again.
- Open Lands – Discussed above
- Wildlife Sightings – Vulture at Frog Pond, Bear by Bart's, Coyotes on Kimball Heights by Les
- Local Open Space
- Vandalism – Updates
- Signage – Alan has the posts needed will coordinate with Spencer and Les to get them placed.
- Issac Frye Highway Project – Discussed Above.
- Gage Road Field – Discussed Above.
- Stanton Knock – No update on a Management Plan
- Sherburne Woods – No update on a Management Plan
- Frog Pond – R-O-W, R-O-W Culvert, Maintenance, Milford Side Field Edging; Update –
- Alan proposed that he will take care of the Dam Maintenance as well as Maple Street. Spencer made a motion not to exceed \$400 on the maintenance, Bill second the motion ... voted in the affirmative by all members.
- Jeff Stone will ponder a way to measure the seepage at Frog Pond, and will coordinate with the other members about devising a seepage weir that will work. Will follow up at next meeting.
- Spencer discussed an upcoming Urban Tree Group, he will be attending.
- Carnival Hill – No Update
- Community Garden at Carnival Hill – No Update
- Four Corners Farm – Discussed Above
- Wegener Woods - Signage discussed above.
- Trails – Update
- Miscellaneous – including but not limited to:
  - Souhegan Watershed Association – Update
  - Souhegan River Local Advisory Committee (SoRLAC) – Update
  - Regional Open Space Team (ROST) – Update

- Souhegan Valley Land Trust (SVLT) – Update
- NiSoHiLa – Update

Les made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 Alan seconded; voted in the affirmative by all members.

Minutes Typed by Donna T. Tallarico