

1 **Wilton Conservation Commission**

2 P.O. Box 83, Wilton Town Hall, Wilton, NH 03086

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9 Jennifer S. Beck – 603.654.5526 – jenniferscottbeck@gmail.com

10 Leslie P. Tallarico, Alternate

11 Minutes of Monthly Meeting

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14 The Wilton Conservation Commission held its **regular monthly meeting on Monday, May 14, 2018,**
15 **at 7:00 pm** in the Fire Station Training Room.

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17 **Call to Order:** Chairman Bart Hunter called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

18 Those attending were:

- 19 • Members: Bart Hunter, Chairman, Jeff Stone, Jennifer Beck, Alan Preston, Joe Broyles,
20 William Mahar, and Les Tallarico.
- 21 • Guests: Justin Kane, Sharon Akers from Lyndeborough Conservation Committee, and Donna
22 Crane.

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24 **Old Business:**

- 25 • **Minutes:** Review **of the minutes** for April 9, 2018. The following changes were made: Line
26 105 “Select Board's Office”, Line 98 “Finlayson”; and Line 105 “talk to Dawn....”. Motion made
27 by A. Preston and seconded by A. J. Beck to approve April minutes as amended. **Motion**
28 **passed.**
- 29
30 • **Budget & Expenditures:** B. Hunter nothing new to report.
- 31
32 • **ZBA:** J.Stone indicated they heard application to build a garage that would encroach on
33 setback. A. Preston suggested there's a class 6 road related to or near this lot that may have
34 some bearing on the application. There was no Conservation Commission interest.
- 35
36 • **Planning Board:** B. Hunter indicated that the Planning Board is still working on the Master
37 Plan.
- 38
39 • **Frog Pond:** J. Stone indicated that there was nothing new to report. He did reiterate about
40 the rotting rail on the bridge that was mentioned in last month's meeting. A. Preston indicated
41 we need to start to figure out where the new signs and kiosks are to be located. J. Stone
42 indicated a good spot would be in the open space on Maple Street and the parking area on
43 Whiting Hill Road.
- 44
45 • **Forest Management:** B. Mahar indicated there was nothing new to report.
- 46
47 • **Wildlife Sightings:** Several on the Commission, indicated that they have seen a black bear
48 and a cub, fisher cats, coyotes, mother fox with two kids, dear, orioles, rose breasted
49 woodpeckers and turkeys.

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- **Property (LCHIP) monitoring Four Corners:** A meeting took place with K. Williams, S. Young, the Heritage Commission, J. Stone, J. Beck and B. Hunter. After lengthy discussion it was determined that a schedule to repair the issues as outlined in the letter would be made. It will be determined which takes priority and also the financial needs. B. Hunter indicated that the younger crowd is taking the initiative however, they have not been able to do a lot. B. Hunter indicated that LCHIP is not happy because enough has not been done. However, with the spread sheet being put together they are hoping it will be all taken care of.
- **LCHIP Grants Horseshoe and Others:** J. Beck indicated that there is a May 18th deadline with a June 22nd drop dead deadline for the grant. She indicated that need more funding and information from the property owner. J. Beck suggested we wait until 2019 to apply for the grant as we do not have enough information for this to go through. She indicated that with the situation in town hall as well as the LCHIP at Four Corners has not helped with our reputation. J. Beck suggested that we develop a serious partnership with a land trust. It was mentioned that Piscataquog Land Conservancy is willing to work with us. J. Beck also suggested we connect with Sam Proctor again. She also indicated that Ian McSweeney is still okay to work for us until June. B. Hunter agreed with J. Beck that we should wait until next year to move forward.
- **Members who need to be sworn in:** A. Preston and J. Stone indicated that they have been sworn in, but need to check with Select Board to make sure they are re-appointed.

New Business:

- **Justin Kane Topic: Birdhouse proposal** – Justin Kane handed out a proposal he drafted for the building of nesting boxes. He indicated they would be using raw white pine which they will purchase from a local lumber company. He was hoping that the Conservation Commission would be interested in buying some of the raw materials that they would need to build the nesting boxes. If they the Conservation Commission bought the materials J. Kane would have his class build not only one for them, but one for the conservation commission to do with them as they please. This would raise awareness and attention around the town. The class also designed a label for each nesting box giving those instructions on which bird it was built for, how to mount it and where they should place it.

J. Kane indicated that boards would be rough cut and about three feet in length. He indicated they could provide 40 houses in two different sizes. (See attached proposal). This would be a great collaborative joint venture for the high school as well as the Commission. J. Kane indicated that he would be able to deliver the nesting houses by the third week of June. A. Preston indicated that we could take the money out of LCHIP for the materials so the tax payers are not paying for it. A. Preston then made a motion, and was seconded by W. Mahar to take \$250.00 from our LCHIP funds to pay for the materials of the nesting boxes. **The motion passed.**

J. Kane and J. Beck will draft a press release. Discussion was had about where some of the nesting boxes would go.

- 98 • **Town Clean-up Day:** Sharon Akers from the Lyndeborough Conservation joined our meeting.
99 She wanted to talk to the Commission regarding roadside cleanup. She indicated
100 Lyndeborough has been doing it for 3 years now, but never feels that they are doing enough.
101 She was hoping to do a weeklong event leading up to Earth Day. She indicated that a town
102 truck would be left in a place where individuals could put the trash in. She also indicated that it
103 seems to be the same people picking up trash and they are doing it year round. She would
104 like to start an “adopt a road” program so it puts a name to a road. S. Akers indicated they
105 could create some incentives such as a free breakfast sandwiches, gift certificates or
106 something like that for signing up or having the cleanest street. S. Akers indicated that she has
107 personally gone to each school, put up posters and had sign-up sheets, but indicated this had
108 not worked out so well. She would like to join forces.
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110 Discussion was had by the Commission. S. Akers indicated that if we would agree to work
111 together we should coordinate the date for the trash pick-up day and make the schools aware
112 of it. She also indicated that we should probably dedicate a table at the Sustainability Fair. J.
113 Beck suggested that S. Akers talk to other communities to see what has worked for them. J.
114 Beck indicated she would work with some help with the Community Outreach program.
115

116 Donna Crane, President, Wilton Community Center, joined the meeting at this point. She
117 indicated that once a year for clean-up was not enough. We should try to elicit more young
118 people to pick up trash so that they would feel invested in the town. B. Hunter suggested
119 maybe a combination of an adopt a road with clean up quarterly, and publish a road that need
120 to be adopted. D. Crane suggested we reach out to other organizations in the area to get
121 them interested in adopting a road. It would be a social opportunity. W. Mahar suggested that
122 we advertise a hall of shame to make littering not cool.
123

- 124 • **Quorum:** W. Mahar ask that we do not have any more site walks without a quorum. This is in
125 reference to the site walk that was supposed to happen on April 24th. J. Stone indicated that it
126 was not cancelled due only to a lack of quorum, but also because the owner refused to make it
127 open to the public. Discussion was had. B. Hunter indicated he would talk to Barbara Richter
128 and ask her opinion. This discussion will be tabled until we hear from her.
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- 130 • **Photo Contest:** J. Beck indicated that everything has been put out. She also indicated that
131 the prize money was coming from LCHIP, and the Library is available for the ceremony again.
132 It was suggested that we put out a press release in the Blinking Light and on the website.
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- 134 • **Pick up of Gate for Carnival Hill:** A. Preston indicated that he will pick up the gate. B.
135 Hunter indicated he would call Wendy and find out where it is.
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137 It was also asked where the signage was going for Frog Pond. A. Preston indicated one would
138 go by the bridge and one by the gate. He also indicated he would have to get dig safe to mark
139 the spots before he builds them.
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- 141 • **Letter to Surface Transportation Board:** B. Hunter indicated a letter needs to be written to
142 Surface Transportation against Pan Am trying to end the rail service. He hopes with enough
143 public letters written they will keep the rail service going.
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- 145 • J. Beck wanted the Commission to know that J. Stone and B. Hunter made a really good
146 showing at the Heritage Commission in regards to this issue. Kudos to you both.
147

148 **Miscellaneous:**

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150 • **Souhegan River Local Advisory Committee (SoRLAC):** B. Mahar indicated he had not
151 attended the meeting. He indicated there is some work being done by a development close to
152 the river in Merrimack.

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154 • **ROST – Regional Open Spaces Team:** W. Mahar indicated he would check into this. It was
155 also mentioned that most of their discussions were done by email.

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157 **Adjournment:**

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159 • A motion to adjourn was moved, seconded by J. Beck and B. Mahar. **The motion passed.** B.
160 Hunter **adjourned the meeting at 9:12 pm.**

161

162 Respectfully submitted,

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164 Jeanette Vinton, WCC Recorder

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