

Moultonborough Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes
Monday November 6, 2023
10:00 AM
Moultonborough Town Hall

Present: Marie Samaha, Bill Gassman, Steve King, Sandra Kelly, Anni Jakobsen, Jim Nelson, Cindy O'Connell, Max Hoene

Guests: Jonathan W. Tolman, Chair Board of Selectmen, Charles F. Smith, Town Administrator, Dari Sassan, Town Planner, Cristina Ashjian, (Chair, Heritage Commission)

1. Motion, seconded, voted, and passed to approve October 2, 2023, meeting minutes with spelling corrected for Glidden Road.

2. Discussion with John Tolman, BoS, and Charlie Smith, Town Administrator:
 - a. Charley Smith spoke to the Conservation Commission expressing that the town understands the importance of maintaining water quality in Moultonborough. He advised that the town is considering a feasibility study for a public sewer system capital improvement project starting at the Center Harbor Town Line.
 - b. John Tolman introduced a new initiative called "Conference of Committees." This conference's objective is to come together as a group (Committees, Boards and Commissions with the Board of Selectmen) on an annual basis, so that that we can work cohesively to discuss different initiatives and set goals. John also stated that one key priority is maintaining water quality in Moultonborough.
 - c. Marie reviewed the list of talking points regarding ConCom activities, concerns, potential future projects, ConCom involvement collaborating with other groups and associations in the lakes region and expressed appreciation of support CC gets from Town Land Use Department, Public Works, and Town Clerks. She said ConCom appreciates the Town Staff. They have all been wonderful.
 - d. Other discussion:
 - i. Bill said that more and more sites are maxing out allowed impervious cover on site applications. The overall effect is we are being "killed by a thousand cuts", meaning that more and more stormwater is going directly into the lake instead of being infiltrated on site.
 - ii. John mentioned that it is important to outreach and educate developers and owners in BMP.
 - iii. Max summarized the upcoming Wednesday meeting with NHDES regarding best approach to introduce and partner with the "Soak Up The Rain" educational program. He also introduced the idea of building an ADA compliant 1-mile-long nature trail in Moultonborough.
 - iv. Jim suggested that the town consider financial for Cyano similar to what they done with Milfoil. At some point we will have to support treatment remedies and investments to better define causes and solutions. As we budget for maintaining

our infrastructure, we should consider a line item for maintaining and improving the quality of our water bodies.

- v. Dari said that he recognized that given the volume of permits, there is a need for more enforcement. He said Scott and Clayton are getting more done by doing more enforcement up front in the permit process, however they recognize that more staff is needed. Presently the town does not have the staff to inspect the effectiveness of retention or infiltration ponds or if required maintenance is being carried out. Dari would like to see more alternate members on the PB. He recognizes that working with local associations such as LKWA is important to update local septic regulation.
- vi. Steve mentioned that he would like to see installation of all irrigation systems within the buffer zone permitted. This could help promote natural buffer zones and reduce fertilizer being flushed into lake water.
- vii. John said he values the ConCom site comments in evaluating applications.

3. Applications/Permits:

- a. Reviewed list of applications.
- a. Planning Board- Sandra expressed that Code Enforcement needs additional staff to process volume of applications and oversee compliance. They are meeting on Wednesday to review some of the amendments.
- b. Zoning Board-Anni stated that some Zoning regulations need updating. For example, permeable pavements systems are designed to capture the stormwater below pavement so that it can be infiltrated and recharge the groundwater. However, over time these systems get clogged by debris, silt, organic material thus preventing water from reaching the ground below. Therefore, in general these systems become impervious over time. She also mentioned that the environment and wetlands are being stressed by the present development growth rate. ZBA has no meeting this month.

4. Moultonborough Bay Watershed Plan Update:

Marie has met with Chris Theriault, director DPW, to review list of work needed on Town Roads. Chris reported that most of the action items have been completed. Private Road considerations: there is an issue with Private Road association improvements not getting done. This issue is to be addressed in a future ConCom meeting.

5. Agenda items from prior meetings:

- a) Letter to owner of gas station: Max shared that a meeting has been scheduled with the owner for Nov 10 and has been posted as a public meeting.
- b) Goodwin property survey: Work has been committed to surveyor, scheduled for fall 2023.
- c) NHDES meeting with ConCom– Scheduled for November 30. Purpose of meeting: Conservation Commission recommendations/suggestions for Shoreland/Wetland applications

6. Site Visit Scoring Sheet: The objective of this scoring sheet is to streamline wetland and shorefront site visits to give consistency to ConCom comments in addition to measuring and comparing how a site is trending (improved or stressed) before considering the applicants proposed condition. Marie shared a draft. Some editing recommendations were made: add space for site visit date, add color-coding convention (same as Watershed plans rating system). Also add space for previous score taken from existing watershed plan reports.
7. NHACC 2024 Membership: Annie motioned, and it was second to approve \$825 membership fee paid from ConCom account. Motion passed unanimously.
8. NH Big Tree Program: Cristina Ashjian spoke regarding the NH Big Tree Program and the importance that the Moultonborough Big Tree List be updated. The present status is that Moultonborough has lost 2 big trees off the last list. Christina has located and measured 4 new Big Trees in Town for inclusion. She will prepare a news release regarding subject.
9. Bank Balance:
Conservation Commission Fund = \$72,679.13
MFCA = \$18,675.18
10. Adjourn: Motion was made to adjourn, second and passed unanimously. 11:55AM

Next meeting: December 4, 2023