

Milford Conservation Commission November 9, 2023 Meeting Minutes 7:00pm Milford BOS Meeting Room

PRESENT: Members Town Representatives Guests
John Yule, Chair Richard Elliott (Alt) – Acting Full Member Paul Dargie, BOS representative Elizabeth Keenan
Anita Stevens Chris Costantino (Alt) – Acting Full Member
Marie Nickerson
Excused: Andy Hughes, VChair; Andy Seale, Rodney Dellafelice, Kim Rimalover

Appointment:

7:00 Marty Sample, Milford Trails Committee chair. See Item 1 Below.

Item	Discussion	Who Will Do What
1. Trails Report by Marty Sample, the Trails Committee chair.	<p>The trails are in good shape with the regular ongoing maintenance required.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Souhegan River Trail (SRT) West – what to do with the tilting bridge (Bridge 2) after the Japanese knotweed. Not many people seem to use the trail past the Wheeler bridge (Bridge 1). Perhaps this is a good turn-around location.• Marty will talk to Steve Erdody about replacement blazes. We are about out of our current supply. Marty might investigate local machinists.• Mile Slip – the Mitchell Brook trail will need to be rerouted from the middle of the clearing and move it southerly to run along the stone wall, reconnecting with the existing trail at the tree line. One purpose of this restoration project was to create a better habitat for nesting birds, which will be disturbed by daily incursions by hikers and their dogs.• Liz Keenan is interested in joining the Trails Committee. She will work with Marty for a good fit.• Rich Elliott asked to be added to the Trails Committee as Feet on the Trail, rather than an assigned trail network to monitor.	Chris will connect Elizabeth and Rich with Marty, who manages the volunteer database.
2. Meeting Minutes approval	On a motion by Anita, seconded by Marie, the members unanimously approved the October meeting minutes	
3. 4 th Saturday hike	October 28 – Mile Slip TF Chris led. The hikers were glad to learn about the Early Successional Habitat restoration cut and to observe evidence of earlier cuts and subsequent habitat restoration. November 25, 2023 Hitchiner TF to Mile Slip Chris and Liz Keenan will lead the hike.	

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4. Warrant Article for 2024	The members discussed presenting a warrant article for \$30K to the Conservation Fund.	Chris will schedule a meeting with the BAC.
5. Reports / Old Business	Milford Community Land Ecological Inventory and Impact Assessment - nothing to report	
	Ghost Train races Oct.13-15, 2023. Another good event. The runners were and continue to post positive thoughts about the race and look forward to registering for the October 18&19, 2024 15 th running of the race. Volunteers can save the date!	
	Town Forests: Mile Slip TF -early successional restoration project. Completed. Matt Tarr, UNH Cooperative Extension Wildlife Biologist visited and approved the work. The invoice will be submitted to NHFG for a \$5,000 Small Grant award. The MCC will pay the remaining bill from the Town Forest fund.	
	Armory Rd /Rail Trail crossing – the signaling parts are in town. DPW will assemble and install the parts after the site work is done, which is dependent upon ground conditions. Chris has been in contact with the site work contractor to flag the trees that need to be removed. A date has not been set yet.	
	Open subdivisions – place holders to check for changes Falcon Ridge – Monumentation of lots. Wilton CC has contacted the MCC again. They would like the MCC to take a more active role in field management around Frog Pond. The members discussed this and sustained their decision to do as little as needed to keep an unmanaged field. Spaulding – Monumentation and easement of the open space No changes in status for either since last mtg.	
	Groundwater Protection Zoning Ordinance (GPD) – The members reviewed Draft 2 which was generated from the October 28 work session, attended by Anita, Marie, AndyH and Chris. There are substantial content changes. The edits from this Nov 9 meeting will be included in the updated Draft 3 of the G The current draft is being reviewed by Nicole Crawford, Town Engineer. Milford is not on a Septic System Preapproval List that is managed by the state, which is the agency that manages septic system approvals. If Milford is added to this list, the state will require that a new septic system plan be approved by the town prior to receiving state approval.	John will send the local preapproval list of septic system to Gary for BOS consideration to add Milford to this list managed by the state.
6. Work session	There will be a work session on Nov 30 to make further edits to the Groundwater Protection District ordinance.	
7. Interdepartment	Ciardelli lot line adjustment and site plan. NO comment from the MCC	

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Review (IDR)		
8. Adjournment	On a motion by Rich, seconded by Marie, the MCC meeting was adjourned at 8:45	

Next Regular Meeting – December 14, 2023 @ 7PM. NOTE: This will be an in-person in the Selectmen's Meeting Room. Virtual (remote) access may be available via Zoom. Access details will be included on that meeting's posted Agenda

2023 Meeting Dates: Jan 13. Feb 9. Mar 9. Apr 13. May 11. June 8, Jul 13. Aug 10. Sept 14. Oct 12. Nov 9. Dec 14