Milford Conservation Commission   June 8, 2023 Meeting Minutes   7:00pm   Milford BOS Meeting Room

PRESENT: Town Representatives   Guests

Members

John Yule – Chair   Richard Elliott (Alt)   Paul Dargie, BOS representative   Hunter Leeman – Eagle Scout Candidate

Andy Hughes, VChair   Chris Costantino (Alt)   Terrey Dolan – Office of Community   Marty Sample – Trails Committee Chair

Rodney Dellafelice   Development Director

Kim Rimalover

Anita Stevens

Marie Nickerson

Andy Seale

Appointment:

7:00 South Street gas station proposal (ML043-020-002) – see Item 6a

7:30 Hitchiner/Perry Rd (ML007-020) – see item 6b

8:00 Hunter Leeman – Eagle Scout project at Rotch TF - see Item 4

Item	Discussion	Who Will Do What
1. Meeting Minutes approval	The members unanimously approved the May Meeting Minutes on a motion by Andy Seale, seconded by Rod. The members unanimously approved the May Work Session report on a motion by AndyH, seconded by Marie.	
2. 4th Saturday hike	June 24, 2023. The hike will be held at Rotch TF, meeting at the parking area on Ruonala Rd. One goal is to identify the location of bench(es) at Rotch for Hunter Leeman's Eagle Scout Project. (Item 4)	Regular posting on social media and blind copy email reminder
3. Accept Donations and Awards	The members unanimously accepted the TARC donation of $10,311.08 for the Ghost Train Race 2022 on a motion by AndyS and seconded by Marie. The funds are to be deposited into the Granite Town Rail Trail Revolving Fund.	Chris will write a notification memo to the BOS
4. Volunteer projects	Hunter Leeman, Troop 407, will build and install bench(es) at Rotch Town Forest. There will be some trail brush clearing of overhanging branches. Hunter will use the bench design that was used by the Girl Scouts at the base of Tucker Brook Falls. He intends to complete the project by September 2023. He will hold a bake sale on July 15 at Shaw's Grocery Store.	

5. Reports	Milford Community Land Ecological Inventory and Impact Assessment – stream channel gauges have been installed on either side of the Heron Pond Rd culvert and one at the beaver dam.	
	Town Forests: • Mile Slip TF – Several MCC members met with Eric Radlof, Forester, and members of the Ruffed Grouse Society on June 3 at MSTF. They walked the site of the proposed Early Successional Habitat Restoration project, Stand 3. The Ruffed Grouse members will work with the MCC with invasives management to support the work to include Ruffed Grouse in our management decisions. Is it sensible to use a forestry practice in the relatively cleared 2 acres around the parking area that will have less impact on the surface?	
	Wetland Overlay District update – Rich emailed some links to resources to help guide our work.	
	Armory Rd /Rail Trail crossing. The members decided to drop our application for the 2024 RTP grant. The timing of the grant won't help our efforts to make the improvements before the 2023 Ghost Train races in October. There have been significant delays in the NHFG review of our project which threaten our timely submission of the application by June 16. The Granite Town Rail Trail Revolving Fund should have enough money to complete the project.	

	Open subdivisions – place holders to check for changes
	    Falcon Ridge – Monumentation of lots.
	    Spaulding – Monumentation and easement of the open space
	    No changes in status for either since last mtg	

6. Work session	June 22, 2023 as needed	
7. Interdepartmental Review.	a) Map 43-20-2 Gas station on South Street. Request for a Variance for a gas station in a Well Head Protection Area and a Special Exception for fill of a buffer and wetland. Matt Peterson, Keach Nordstrom, presented the results of his research to address the concerns raised by the MCC after their site visit. He asserts that there are only 2 private wells located in the wellhead protection area indicated on the map. The applicant is using state of the art technology with fiberglass tanks and flexible piping. The applicant removed one of the diesel pumps from the proposed plan. He	a. Chris will update the April 2023 ZBA memo to reflect the meeting discussion and deliver it to Zoning staff b. Rich will update the Draft ZBA memo with the suggested edits. He will send it to Chris to be forwarded to Zoning staff.

	rejects the idea that wildlife may be using this location due to the functional assessment of a low value wetland and that the parcel is within a potential wildlife corridor as indicated in the NHFG Wildlife Corridor Map. The members discussed his presentation and decided that there was nothing new presented to compel a change of opinion. The memo to the ZBA will be updated to reflect the latest presentation and that the MCC does not consider that this is a good use in the Wellhead Protection Area 1, as prohibited by the Zoning Ordinance. b) Hitchiner Special Exception M7L20 – Request for a Special Exception for an impact in the wetland buffer. Earl Blanchford, Hayner/Swanson, presented the proposed project to widen the driveway at 96 Old Wilton Rd to accommodate a change of use from commercial condos to a manufacturing facility. Hitchiner Manufacturing purchased the lot (ML 007-020) to move an outsourced manufacturing process to Milford. This will require a >4000 sqft wetland buffer impact. Several of the MCC members attended a site visit with the applicant on June 6, 2023 along with Planning Board and Zoning Board members. Rich drafted a ZBA memo based on the discussion at the site visit, which was edited and accepted at the June 8 meeting. The MCC did not have any objections to the proposed wetland buffer impacts.	
8. Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.	

Next Regular Meeting – July 13, 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

2022 Meeting Dates: Jan 13. Feb 9. Mar 9. Apr 13. May 11. June 8, Jul 13. Aug 10. Sept 14. Oct 12. Nov 19. Dec 14