TILTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
September 15, 2008

MINUTES

Site walk – Winnipesaukee River Trail:
Attendees: Joyce Fulweiler, Ken Norton, Kathryn Dawson, Helen Hanks, Sukie Clark, Chuck Mitchell, Kathy Mitchell and Eliza Conde. Ken Norton gave an overview of the project and indicated the areas of concern relative to wetlands and shoreland protection.

Meeting: Members present: Helen Hanks, Sukie Clark, Jon Scanlon, Chuck Mitchell, Bob Hardy, Kathy Mitchell, Ben Wadleigh and Paul Rushlow. Also present: Ken Norton, Dan O’Shaughnessy and Eliza Conde, Secretary.

Ken Norton/Winnipesaukee River Trail: Ken reviewed the status of the trail to date. Funding was approved by NHDOT in 2002-3 and placed in the 10 year plan for “Alternative transportation funding”. The subsequent increase in construction costs has made it necessary to use roads and sidewalks in the Northfield portion, enter Tilton on the Cannon bridge and use the sidewalk east to Knapp Road where it will enter the railroad way again. The proposed bridge from Granite Street crossing Winnipesaukee River will be a later project. This will be the first trail along an active rail line and the state has many liability and safety concerns. They are currently requiring a 5’ chain link fence which is very expensive, would interfere with wildlife traffic and would not be very appealing. The Trail Association will be meeting with DOT and would like to encourage a low wooden guardrail with openings to allow wildlife movement.

There are several wetlands impacts with the largest being near the I93 overpass. A wooden walkway is proposed in the area near the I93 overpasses as there is not room for the trail on the ground. Comments from members:

- Paul Rushlow: DOT will be concerned about safety
- Helen Hanks: An existing fence has not been maintained and is unsightly. The proposed chain link fence will become an eyesore and prohibit wildlife travel. She favored a compromise of a shorter wooden fence.
- Chuck Mitchell: Crossing Rte 3/11 to reach Knapp Road will be a safety issue. The wetlands impacts did not affect any significant wetlands.
- Bob Hardy: The decking on the wooden walkway will need to accommodate horses. He questioned the safety of a knee high guardrail in winter when snowmobiles could get their front ski caught. He did not believe a fence was necessary and there is no fence that would be good for wildlife travel.
- Jon Scanlon: People are regularly using the railroad tracks for foot travel currently and the new trail would certainly be safer.
There was general support of the plan for the trail.

**Dan O’Shaughnessy:** Mr. O’Shaughnessy proposes repairs to an existing 189’ retaining wall and a damaged dock port at 617 Laconia Road on Lake Winnisquam. He expects to apply for a NHDES Minimum Impact permit to make the repairs during the fall drawdown. The old concrete retaining wall of undetermined age will be replaced with interlocking block back filled with gravel. Comments and advice from members were:

- Bob Hardy suggested that DES is not favorable to man made shoreline structures and may require natural stone. He also advised Mr. O’Shaughnessy to be very specific with his measurements, depth in the water, height of wall, exact length of wall, etc.
- Chuck Mitchell: Any rain during construction will cause erosion, so there needs to be plans for silt fencing, etc.
- Helen Hanks: DES will require every detail addressed, type and location of silt fence, etc.
- Paul Rushlow: Suggest having DES visit the site before the application is submitted in order to know what will be required.
- Jon Scanlon: Suggested fabric over the backfill gravel to avoid runoff.
- Chuck Mitchell: The dock port needs to be repaired concurrently, otherwise DES may not allow it to be built at a later time.

**Minutes:** Bob Hardy moved, seconded by Kathy Mitchell to accept the minutes of August 18 with minor changes. Motion passed.

**Walgreen’s wandering culvert:** Has been removed by Walgreen’s contractor.

**Easement updates:** One property in question has been sold, however the new owner may be interested in some form of easement. Helen Hanks will contact the new owner.

For the other property of interest, Blue Moon Env. gave an estimate of services for reviewing the town’s ordinances and the shoreland protection regulations to determine the usable space to be $500-720. Jon Scanlon moved, seconded by Sukie Clark to spend up to $500 for this report. Motion passed.

**Wetlands applications**

1. **Procopio:** Sukie Clark will attend the ZBA meeting Sept. 16 relative to our input regarding this application.
2. **Fitzgerald, 22 Emerald Lane:** Replace old home with new larger home within the 50’ shoreline protection zone. A letter will be sent to DES suggesting the home
be placed 50’ from the shoreline since the footprint is different from the original home. Also suggest that the disturbance around the home needs to be minimized. The plans do not indicate the number of bedrooms, whether the septic system will be replaced or whether the house will be on a slab or cellar. Flooding is of concern.

3. Tilton Nurseries: Replacing rip rap, etc. that has failed. Proposal includes moving the retaining wall back from the brook and replacing shrubs along the brook. A letter will be sent to DES suggesting that the slope of the wall may be too steep as it may increase the velocity of water causing flooding downstream.

**Fall newsletter:** Tabled to November.

**Correspondence:**
- DES – 46 Lakewood Drive
- DES – 997 Laconia Road
- PB – Canzano
- Quin-T compliance report

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Eliza Conde, Secretary