



Conservation Commission
Town of Townsend
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James LeCuyer (2022)

Anne LeCuyer (2023)

James Gates (2024), Chairman

Colby Streeter, Vice-Chairman (2025)

Joan Savoy, Clerk (2022)

Jessica Consolvo, Conservation Agent

Matthew Matos, Administrative Assistant

Meeting of the Townsend Conservation Commission

MINUTES

Wednesday, May 25th, 2022 @ 7:00 pm

THIS IS AN OPEN MEETING AND ALL ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

SELECTMEN'S CHAMBERS, 272 MAIN STREET, TOWNSEND, MA

Or via remote ZOOM for convenience

Please note that while an option for remote attendance and/or participation is being provided as a courtesy to the public, the meeting will not be suspended or terminated if technical problems interrupt the virtual broadcast, unless otherwise required to by law. Members of the public with interest in a specific agenda item should make plans for in-person attendance.

TCAM Inc. is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86091485361?pwd=dnZoUktEcHobGYxYWf5dG05REI2QT09>

Meeting ID: 860 9148 5361

Passcode: 991781

One tap mobile

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Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86091485361?pwd=dnZoUktEcHobGYxYWf5dG05REI2QT09>

1.0 Preliminaries – Votes May Be Taken: (YouTube timestamps)

1.1 – Call the meeting to order and roll call JG calls the meeting to order at 7:07PM under the Wetlands Protection Act (WPA) and the Townsend Wetland Bylaw (TWB).

Roll Call: CS (P) JL (P) AL (P) JG (P) JS (Absent until 7:10PM, then present via Zoom)

1.2 – Announce the meeting is being video recorded. Is anyone else recording? No one else is recording.

1.3 – Chairman’s Additions and/or Deletions 3.2 and the review of the 5/11/22 minutes are being continued to 6/8 meeting.

1.4 – Chair’s report None

1.5 – Review/Approve the meeting minutes from 4/27/22, the 4/27/22 executive session minutes, and 5/11/22 minutes JS arrives before the review/approval of the meeting minutes.

*JL motions to approve 4/27/22 meeting minutes and ES minutes, AL seconded
The motion passes unanimously*

1.6 – Agent’s report (2:50-5:04)

1. Building Permit interdepartmental signatures
 - a. 215 Main Street
 - b. 90 Tyler Road
 - c. 81 Highland Street
 - d. 1 Kimplen Court
 - e. 19 Hillside Drive
 - f. 41 Greenville Road
 - g. 225 South Row Road
2. Referrals completed
 - a. none
3. BOH interdepartmental signatures
 - a. 170 Main St
 - b. 22 Walnut St
 - c. 241 Main St
 - d. 17 Elm St
4. RDA – 46 Emery Road tree cutting for safety concerns – put on hold 3/7/22
5. Request for COC – 1 Bailey Rd 308-639 pending fee review
6. Request for COC – 5 Bailey Rd 308-638 pending fee review
7. Request for COC – 7 Bailey Rd 308-637 pending fee review
8. OOC Extension Request & minor amendment –50 Highland St 308-667 issued 5/9/22
9. OOC Extension Request – Rail Trail issued 5/9/22
10. RDA – 41 Greenville Road deck installation issued 5/16
11. RDA – 116 Wallace Hill Road septic replacement issued 5/16
12. RDA – 57 Tyler Road intake & site visit
13. Emails with Campbell Farm trustees regarding proposed sugar house
14. Ecological NOI – Squannacook Wildlife Management Area habitat restoration intake, sent referrals to Town boards

2.0 Hearings and Appointments– Votes May Be Taken:

3.0 Work Session – Votes May Be Taken:

3.1 – TWB 2022-127, 57 Tyler Road Request for Determination of Applicability for the removal of 5 trees within a stream resource buffer (5:10-9:50)

The applicant, Lori Dodge, is present at the meeting via Zoom. JC explains that the applicant is looking to remove several dead/living trees all within 100 feet of a wetland. Members of the CC saw the site on 5/18 and they see no reason to deny this project.

*JL motions to issue a negative-3 determination, AL seconded
The motion passes unanimously*

~~—3.2— Request for COCs for 1, 5, & 7 Bailey Road: DEP #308-639, #308-638, and #308-637 (Continued from 5/11)~~

3.3 – Update on the submitted plans for the sugar house located in Campbell Farm CR (9:55-11:40)

JC shares the news from the applicant that, as of now, they are planning to use a generator for power and so they do not need written approval from the CC.

3.4 – Vote on potential CC fee schedule revisions (11:41-49:00)

There is some disagreement over whether the CC should be voting on changing the fee amounts at all, after the CC had just recently agreed on an updated fee schedule back in February. The fee schedule had been brought back to the CC because JC noticed, when dealing with applicants, that a lot of the language in the fee schedule was unclear and confusing. There is a long discussion where the CC agree that the language should be changed but they are unable to come to an agreement over what the fee amounts should be. It is decided to approve the changes that JC recommended but to continue the fee amount discussion to another meeting. The changes that JC made include adding a 25% discount for charities/non-profits, changing the commercial column to “all other projects”, changing RDAs to a flat fee based on applicant type, adding “/hour” to the research time fee, changing recording date to expiration date for the COC fees, and getting rid of the agent consultation fees.

*CS motions to approve the administrative changes and to discuss changing the fee amounts at an upcoming meeting, AL seconded
The motion passes unanimously*

3.5 – Enforcement discussion for 61 Edward Road (49:04-53:55)

AL informs the rest of the CC that the property owner is not able to pick up the trash due to medical reasons. The rest of the CC agree that, with the owner’s permission, they should get volunteers to go out and help pick up the trash/debris. JC agrees to reach back out to the owner to discuss potential options.

3.6 – Administrative discussion w/ LUC (54:00-59:01)

Michael Crowley, the Land Use Coordinator, wanted to briefly touch base with the CC and make sure that moving forward the CC come to decisions together as a board and not individually. He brings up a recent example where there was time wasted tracking down each CC member’s comments on an issue.

3.7 – Land uses for CC owned properties (59:02-1:27:53)

MC has been working on revising the CC land regulations and he has shared the draft with the CC. MM shares his screen and MC goes over the edits he has made. He has changed needing written permission from the CC for overnight camping to needing a special use permit. He has also made it clear that no baiting or trapping is allowed, fixed some typos, and added a 25 dollar fee for a special use permit from the CC. JG also suggests that yard waste be added to the list of prohibited dumping on CC land and the rest of the CC agree. There is discussion over whether there should be a fee for the special use permit and what the process should be for applying for one. The CC also discuss enforcement and how they will pay for signage and posting. The CC eventually agree to come back to discuss this at a later date when

the edits are more formalized and when some of the questions that have been brought up are answered.

3.8 – Reappointment vote for Joan Savoy (1:27:55-1:31:56)

CS motions to recommend to the BOS that Joan Savoy be reappointed for a 3 year term, AL seconded

CS (Y) JL (N) AL (Y) JS (Y) JG (Y). The motion passes.

3.9 – Reappointment vote for Jim LeCuyer (1:31:57-1:32:30)

AL motions to recommend to the BOS that Jim LeCuyer be reappointed for a 3 year term, CS seconded

CS (Y) JL (Y) AL (Y) JS (N) JG (Y). The motion passes.

4.0 Correspondence – Votes May Be Taken:

4.1 – Memo from Town Properties Committee requesting that the CC review and conduct a site walk at 182 Warren Rd. (1:32:39-1:44:22)

The TPC want to use the expertise of the conservation agent to review some of the properties that they manage. The CC and Michael Crowley are OK with this but since JC has very limited hours, they aren't sure she'll have the time to assist other departments. JC wants to help but she is also not sure that she'll have the time every week, so she doesn't want to commit to anything. Ultimately the CC decide to leave the decision up to JC and MM.

4.2 – Notice from Highway Department regarding resurfacing roads in Timberly Park (1:44:25-1:45:26) The Highway Department informs the CC that they will be resurfacing roads starting the 2nd week of June and that they'll be using erosion control barriers to stop sediment runoff. The CC have no additional comments or concerns.

4.3 – Jennifer Eaton's resignation letter (1:45:27-1:47:36) JG reads the letter aloud to the CC. CS and the rest of the CC thank Jennifer Eaton for her service to the town and wish her the best.

4.4 – Volunteer Response Form to serve on the Conservation Commission submitted by Linda Mack (1:47:37-1:57:11) Linda Mack informs the CC of her background and experience in conservation and why she is applying to serve on the CC. She has previously served on the CC and has also spent time as the conservation agent. Due to her vast experience in the field of conservation the CC agree that she doesn't need to attend a 2nd meeting before voting to recommend that she be appointed.

JS motions to recommend Linda Mack be appointed to the CC, CS seconded

The motion passes unanimously. The BOS will vote on her appointment at their next meeting.

5.0 Education and Conferences – Votes May Be Taken

JG reminds the CC that the MACC is offering more fundamental classes in June and July. The CC also discuss CS's MACC membership.

6.0 Items for discussion at next meeting:

NOI for Squannacook River Wildlife Management Area and RDA for 1 Brown Rd

7.0 Next meeting: Wednesday, June 8th, 2022 at 7:00 pm, BOS Chambers, 2nd floor. This meeting will also be held via virtual Zoom remote in accordance with Covid-19 safe meeting guidelines.

8.0 Adjournment:

*JL motions to adjourn at 9:08PM, AL seconded
The motion passes unanimously*