

Thornton Conservation Commission (TCC) September 14, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Town of Thornton • 16 Merrill Access Road • Thornton, NH 03285 • 603.726.8168

- The meeting was conducted in person on September 14, 2021 from approximately 3:05 PM until about 4:20 PM with Myrtle, Al, Jerry and Maryellen. Mike and Katri were not able to attend.
- The following was discussed:
 - Recent Construction Projects:
 - We discussed the Hoar project. The wetlands application was deemed administratively complete on 7-23-21 by DES and then on 9-13-21, DES requested (significantly) more information. If the land owner doesn't provide this information, the application will be cancelled in November
 - Updates from the Community Conservation Cohorts
 - We got our CCC certificates: Jerry, Katri and Myrtle and also one for the TCC (to be posted on the website)
 - We got pamphlets of the 15 or so different habitats in Thornton, as part of the Habitat Stewardship Series - NH Wildlife Action Plan. These were handed out to the TCC members for review. They are 11" x 5.5". We are evaluating how to use these for outreach.
 - The TCC will check with the Thornton Central School about using the pamphlets as a training aid (Al)
 - TCC Outreach Pamphlets
 - Katri has created two pamphlets for the TCC, one for Protecting the Pemi and one for the TCC Quarterly Photo Contest. They will be placed on the Town Hall counter for accessibility.
 - Pemi Project
 - Jerry discussed his September 8 BOS presentation about the Pemi Access project. The presentation went very well. The BOS supports the project. Pending DOT giving us written notification to develop the river access, we will work with the BOS to further develop a plan. The BOS mentioned concerns about liabilities associated with the land. The BOS recommends reaching to the landowners adjacent to the access property, if this project goes forward.
 - There are two property owners on Robin's Nest Road, one full time resident and one out-of-state owner
 - The TCC will follow-up with DOT before the next TCC meeting, to see if there is any update (Katri)
 - Pemi is a designated river. TCC will dig deeper to find out what that means (Jerry)
 - Natural Resources Inventory – TCC will submit an application for an Antioch student to work on our NRI. The application is due October 8 and we will get it signed off by the BOS at the October 6 BOS meeting (Myrtle)
 - TCC will work on developing our own Thornton Watershed Guardian program. This will include providing resources for landowners with receding river shorelines and other tools. We will develop this over the next six months.
 - PRLAC August 30 Meeting: We discussed several DES regulated construction projects, all minor; there are DES funds available for ground water source protection; PRLAC provides reviews for projects within a ¼ mile from the Pemi; there is a project to remove several dams along the Merrimack River to promote fish migrations; a comprehensive salinity study (road salt impacts on rivers) is near completion, this is the time of year for cyano bacteria outbreaks in some lakes.
- Upcoming Dates:
 - The next TCC meeting is on October 12, 2021 at 3:00 PM in person at Town Hall.