

Thornton Conservation Commission (TCC) January 11, 2021 Meeting Minutes

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

- There was no meeting on December 14, 2022, (we did not have an onsite quorum, due to Covid impacts).
- The meeting was conducted in person on January 11, 2022 from approximately 3:10 PM until about 4:25 PM with Myrtle, Al, Jerry & Mike, in-person, and Maryellen and Katri via Zoom.
- Meeting minutes for the November 9 TCC meeting were approved (unanimously).
- The following was discussed:
 - Recent Construction Projects:
 - No updates for Owl's Nest or the DOT Access Property (Katri has reached out several times, with no response yet).
 - The stream at the Route 3 Culvert Project was electro-fished in December and no trout fish were detected. Maryellen says that her family has fished at that location and found trout, previously. Myrtle will send an email to Ben Nugent (NH F&G) and Tyson Morrill (PRLAC) to request electro-fishing in the spring. Hopefully, this will allow other options for renovating that culvert.
 - There was a December 23, 2021 DES Letter regarding a reported alleged violation at 31 Chickenboro Road. Apparently disruption of the soil has led to sediment discharged into nearby wetlands. The property owner (George Perry) has until January 14, 2022, to respond to DES.
 - Natural Resources Inventory: We were not selected by Antioch University for the internship project (apparently, they did not have a suitable professor to oversee the project). They encouraged us to submit the project for next year. Mike recommended that we post on the Town website about wildlife sightings via actual, tracks, scat or calls (bird or other) and references for that.
 - Quarterly Photo Contest – Not discussed
 - PRLAC November 30 Meeting (attended by Katri & Myrtle): We discussed the following: There are potential issues with the Bristol owned & closed landfill (located in New Hampton). It was closed in 1981 and there are concerns about ongoing water monitoring (groundwater or runoff). The Pemigewasset Corridor Management Plan (last updated in 2013), has applied for State funding to update the plan. Tyson Morrill is working for the Merrimack River watershed project to reforest the land (sapling trees may be available for landowners).
 - Maryellen brought up an issue about the expansion of the Bethlehem landfill and its proximity to Forest Lake State Park (this information was sent by Irit Levy from Waterville Valley CC). We had a lengthy discussion about what the role of TCC should be (impacts that directly affect Thornton or more regional or state-wide issues). We also need to get approval from the BOS, for written input on issues. Myrtle will reach out to DES about landfill management and also Campton CC about the Bethlehem landfill expansion. Katri will reach out to NHACC and TAFW about the role of the CC for these types of issues.
 - Follow-up before the next meeting: we will individually do more research on: SADES, GIS and NRI.
- Upcoming Dates:
 - Saving Special Places annual conference (virtual) on April 8 & 9
 - New Hampshire Assoc. of Conservation Commissions on November 5
 - The next TCC meeting is on February 8, 2021 at 3:00 PM in person at Town Hall.