

MCC Minutes 8/5/2026

The monthly meeting of the Milton Conservation Commission took place on August 5, 2026 at Milton Town Hall. Attendees were Virginia Long, Lee Pilkovsky, Josh Megyesy, **Steve Panish**, Wayne Sylvester (Alternate) and Kathy Moses (Alternate). Kyle Russell was absent so so Kathy was asked to sit on the Board. Guest was Liam Moses. Virginia called the meeting to order at 6:00; streaming was turned on.

#4: Upcoming Events: (see agenda)

#5: Review/Approval of meeting minutes: Virginia asked if there were any changes/corrections to July's minutes that she had sent out. No one had any issues. Lee **made a motion to accept; Josh seconded. All were in favor.**

#6: Financial Report: Steve had no report; he still hasn't heard from Brittany. Lengthy discussion ensued about how to spend the existing money this year and should we ask for the same amount next year. Some possible expenses are \$300 for signs for Jones Brook; other signs; boundary marking costs; and a Wetlands Conservation District Overlay Map. Lee thought the map expense could come out of the CF. Discussion continued about the Map; Lee hoped that cost wouldn't be prohibitive, stating that boundaries may not be needed to be shown on all properties. Marilyn confirmed she is willing to take minutes again next year. Steve stated that we have two weeks to submit the budget; we should buy the signs before the end of the year to use money currently in our account. Josh will check on costs of signs.

#7: MCC Events Planning and Reports:

a. Reports on Recent Events: Jones Brook Grand Opening & Wetlands Walk : Virginia reported the event was poorly attended; people didn't cancel their registrations but didn't show up. However, the walk by Tom Eid was very interesting. Virginia reported on the phragmites control project as well- she accompanied someone from SOLitude on their pre-treatment surveys at Jones Brook and Spaulding Turnpike.

b. Plans for Upcoming Events/Community Outreach:

Virginia and Steve will not be at the WWW Festival; however, Josh will

bring the pelts and skulls. Lee will be there and Wayne will be next to us for TPPA. Marilyn and Kathy will help out for a few hours.

MMRG Conservation Action Plan: Re the meeting August 20, we are responsible for removing all our trash.

Fungi Walk with NHMS at Casey Road: Colleen suggested October 3rd as a possibility.

#8: Outreach to Nute Schools and Other/Community: No update.

#9: Camp Scholarships: Virginia would like this publicized at the Festival. Discussion ensued regarding the 12/31 registration deadline for next year. All agreed to keep that date. We'll have another meeting before the Berry Camp deadline. Regarding the Camp Scholarship flyer, Lee will add a sentence 'We encourage you to apply early.' Including Les Elder's name on the flyer was addressed again; Les made the suggestion about Camp scholarships and some thought it might encourage more families to apply.

#10: Wetlands protections:

a. Virginia told the group that Scott Pike has been rehired as Code Enforcement Officer.

c. Virginia wondered if we have enough money to commission an overlay map. She had no idea how much it would cost. She inquired of Bruce Woodruff but he did not reply.

#11: Town-Owned Easements and Conservation lands:

Fee Properties:

Jones Brook: Virginia went out with the SOL technician. He found new locations of phragmites at Spaulding. And due to density of mixed phragmites and native growth at Jones Brook Park, he said they couldn't treat both properties in one day. And we will lose native plants at Jones Brook. He plans to work along the railroad tracks at Spaulding.

Also Virginia referred to the letter from Colby Fong proposing to make a trail map, for which he will charge \$300 minimum. Steve liked the idea of including markings and adding wetlands. He can also mark property lines. Virginia will ask for definite quote.

Dames Brook: Virginia, Kathy and Josh set a tentative date for 9/12 to

monitor. Inviting the abutters via special letter will be discussed at the next meeting.

Ball: Kathy noted there are lots of markers, but they are not in good shape. Virginia noted extra flagging is needed. She then showed a photo of the property and suggested that a sign stating "No Motorized Vehicles Allowed" be posted at a couple entrance points. Josh asked if we have spare medallions; Steve replied we have around 200 green & white medallions; however, that color combination was not helpful, too difficult to see in the woods. Virginia mentioned a sign stating 'No Camp Fires' is needed as there was evidence of a recent fire. Two signs would be best; we can note this expected expense in the budget.

Easements:

Regarding remarking boundaries, MMRG replied that in regard to additional boundary maintenance, they currently do not have sufficient staff to complete the required boundary maintenance work.

Discussion then turned to Colby Fong's proposition to re-mark boundaries. A suggestion was made that we invite him to a meeting at the same time he comes to look at the properties to prepare a quote for work. However, Lee felt it was up to Mr. Fong to decide what he's comfortable doing. Lee suggested we email him and give him addresses so he can check out the areas. It was decided to wait until after all monitoring reports are done for the year so we can decide which properties need it the most.

Silver Springs: On her monitoring visit, Veronica picked up some litter. Virginia accompanied her and posted additional flags.

Lyman: Monitoring by Veronica and Virginia is complete but report not yet submitted.

Confirm Other Monitoring of Town-held easements: Veronica will monitor Liberty Circle Open Space this year.

#12: Report from TPPA: Wayne reported that the outlook for treatment of brittle naiad by a herbicide was not good. New areas of naiad were discovered;

however, the one-year permit only allows treatment for the two areas applied for last year. Also, due to unforeseen circumstances, DASH didn't start until July 27th. He said DASH could spend 4 to 5 weeks just cleaning on the Maine side. He feels work for the next 4 weeks will hardly make a dent. The NH side is not as bad. So basically there will be no treatment on Milton 3 Ponds this year. Wayne reported that the plant will reseed and send thousands of minuscule seeds to the bottom of the lake. He has requested a meeting of all the 'big wigs' to discuss this situation. He stressed the need to treat annuals differently from perennials. He feels the entire shoreline needs to be treated. Treatment is specific to the permit. Virginia asked if there were any other preventions for the seeds? Wayne replied that from 3-5 years the seeds are still active. Nothing can be done.

#13: Trail Volunteers Report: Wayne reported that the trails at Casey Road Conservation Land looked fine, just a little litter. He visited the overlook knoll and the trails were not too muddy.

#14: Virginia's Report:

a. Virginia received a complaint from Michael Brandmeyer about a violation by Michael Boudreau's retaining wall on St. James. Virginia told Mr. Brandmeyer that she referred this issue to Code Enforcement Officer Scott Pike. Scott said minimal disturbance was found.

b. Virginia attended a NHDES Wetlands Rules Zoom workshop. She stated the rules are being overhauled. The MCC can check on a permit application to see if work has started before the permit is granted. However, only land owners can grant us permission to go on their property.

On another note, Josh asked what happens if there's a resignation from the Board during the person's term. Virginia replied that the Select Board will appoint someone for the interim and a new person will be chosen at the next election.

#15 & 16: Nothing to report.

#17: The date of the next meeting was confirmed. **Wayne then made a motion to adjourn; Lee seconded and all were in favor.** The meeting was adjourned at

7:40 and streaming was turned off.