

MCC Minutes 6/3/2026

The monthly meeting of the Milton Conservation Commission took place on June 3, 2026 at Milton Town Hall. Attendees were Virginia Long, Steven Panish, Lee Pilkovsky, Josh Megyesy, Kyle Russell, Wayne Sylvester (Alternate), Sharon Buttrick (Alternate) and Kathy Moses (Alternate). Guest of the evening was Karen Golab, Select Board Member. As a quorum was present, Virginia called the meeting to order at 6:00; streaming was turned on.

Virginia opened the meeting by introducing Karen Golab who was here to address an idea of a Christmas Tree Farm for the Town of Milton.

#4: Upcoming Events:

- a. The Jones Brook Grand Opening and Wetlands Walk was postponed to a future date due to weather.
- b. MCC will be at the Chili Cookoff at the Town Beach on June 20.

#5: Christmas Tree Farm ideas: Virginia introduced Select Board Member Karen Golab who is proposing a Christmas Tree Farm on Town owned property. Lee cautioned that ~~a~~ only certain types of trees ~~are is~~ only suitable to start a tree farm. Discussion ensued about available land in the Town; an open field is needed. Virginia looked at all MCC-managed properties and none would work. However, the ball field ~~across from~~ behind the cemetery on Applebee Road in Milton Mills was proposed. Kyle asked how long it would take for the trees to mature; Lee answered 8-10 years. He also stressed the farm would be for residents only. Lee and Kyle said a tree farm would be a long-term commitment. Steve thought this idea would not be good for MCC as we don't need to take on more projects. Virginia thought if this project ~~was were~~ publicized ~~about the need for~~ with appropriate land already chosen, someone might step up. Virginia mentioned that Karen Brown of the Rec Department has had her eye on the ball field for years but hasn't done anything about it. Another issue arose: the DPW has been dumping salt-filled snow on this property. Lee felt a soil test should be done to make sure the soil is still viable for growing trees. Sharon then quoted some prices for blue spruce seedlings. Discussion turned to cost and whether a nursery could provide a discount or make a donation. Karen said she'd bring this proposition to the Board. Kyle promised to check out the property. The

suggestion arose of asking the NH Farm Museum if they would be interested. Kyle said they have excellent soil for growing and he'd contact them. All felt it was a great idea.

#6: Review/Approval of meeting minutes: Virginia asked for approval of May's minutes. Lee pointed out that in the paragraph #9, Camp Scholarships, the name 'Les' was inadvertently changed to 'Lee'. Virginia asked for a motion to be made to accept the corrected version. Steve made a motion to accept to the minutes as corrected; Lee seconded. Josh and Kyle abstained as both were not present at May's meeting.

#7: Financial Report: Steve said that again he has no report. He did submit bills to SOL. This money would be coming out of the Conservation Fund (CF), not our budget. He still hasn't received anything from Britt~~neany~~.

#8: MCC Events Planning and Reports:

b. Plans for Upcoming Events/Community Outreach:

Virginia asked Sharon if she needed assistance at the Cookoff. Sharon said Marilyn will spell her for a few hours. She also needs a tent or a canopy. Kyle said he has an easy-up and will come down. Sharon and Josh will coordinate with the pelts. Sharon needs a whiteboard or a display board; Virginia said she might have one. Kyle will bring an easel to set up the board.

For the WWW Festival in August, a Marine docent is coming back to display the Watershed Game especially for the kids.

MMRG Conservation Plan: MMC will co-host with MMRG. The date is set for 8/20 from 4:00 – 7:00; the conference room in Town Hall is booked for it.

#9: Outreach to Nute Schools et al: Steve reported that the removal of invasives at the NH Farm Museum went very well. The students worked hard and accomplished a lot although a few were underdressed for the occasion and the weather. Steve felt the kids needed to be taught about other things like 'what is poison ivy?' and they need to learn about tool etiquette i.e., cleaning the tools after the fact. Sharon asked what happened to the debris; Steve replied that 3 trailers full were taken to the dump. Virginia stated that Facebook got 3K ~~'likes'~~ Views and 100 likes for this project. She said she'd received a note from Science Teacher Christine Pratt thanking MCC for doing this and hoped it would

continue.

#10: Camp Scholarships: Invite camp students to WWF Festival. Virginia hasn't invited the camp students yet; she wants to wait until they return from this year's camping trip.

#11: Wetlands protections:

a. The Brunelle infiltration project has been completed. Bruce Woodruff inspected and is satisfied. Mention was made that a part-time Building Inspector position is available.

#12: Town-Owned Easements and Conservation lands:

Fee Properties:

Casey Rd: John Nute is retiring and Ken Berry will take over monitoring.

Jones Brook: Virginia's grant application got approval for a for a second year of treatment for the phragmites.

Spaulding Turnpike: Virginia asked Josh if he could check the second stand of flagsphragmites. Josh said he has a friend who is a botanist who will come out to look at the property. He hopes he'll get there before SOL applies the next treatment comes out to do the pre-treatment survey. Russ from the Evergreen Valley Snow Mobile Club will be installing a gate as well.

Dames Brook: John Nute found pins but didn't find all of them. Discussion arose as to whether we should do this task ourselves. Josh felt that if we did this, we should let property owners know what's going on. Virginia said it needs to be done when the land is not so wet. Steve said he has a metal detector which will help locate the pins.

Old Ski Area: Virginia is planning a public walk in the Fall.

Ball Property: Regarding the ongoing issue with this property, Virginia feels stated we still need to monitor the rest of this property; she stated Mr. Gustitus is not trustworthy. Kathy asked when we could start; Virginia replied this month. She asked Kyle and Josh if they could go one Saturday to help and they agreed. Regarding the ongoing issue with an abutter of this property, tThe question of whether the ir bench could be removed without legal ramifications arose. Virginia checked with DES; no one is allowed to leave items in the water. Virginia said Will McDuff has become involved replied to her query; he sent ashe also referred to Will's previous sketch to show where the pins are. Access to

the property is a problem; we would have to go by water next year. Many felt someone else should complain; Josh stated we should let it go and there was general agreement.

Easements:

Virginia sent out notification letters to land owners. Ben and Amanda David are still working on getting Gary Tremblay's property.

Silver Springs: Virginia will accompany Veronica will when she monitors.

Lyman Brook: : Virginia will accompany Veronica when she monitors. Veronica will monitor.

Confirm Other Monitoring of Town-held easements:

Liberty Circle: John Nute always monitored but is now retiring. Virginia asked Ken Berry if he could do this; he hasn't replied. A suggestion was made to ask how much MMRG would charge to add it to the others. Virginia said she will inquire.

#13: Report from TPPA: Wayne said he'd be attending the Lakes Congress NH Lakes event in Concord. He wants to have two inspections on boat ramps like 89 other bodies of water. He stressed that boaters need to pressure wash their boats when bringing their boats out of the water. Owners need to keep their boats as clean as possible. If a wash station could be installed, TPPA would pay inspectors an additional \$1.50 per boat. He also mentioned that European Naiad has spread to at least 19 water bodies in NH. Sharon wondered if there are any requirements to make people do what they should. Per agreement with the State, the Lilac Casino in Rochester donated 56K; Wayne wasn't sure how these funds would be handled. There could be problems going forward. Virginia wondered what else could be done with 56K, if not used to improve Town Beach. Wayne replied that there are 74 other sites that have issues like phosphorous at the privately owned Fernald Shores and Balaaton Road. The outdated septic systems at 3 Ponds could be fixed to regulate Ee-coli testing. Kyle noted that old camps have septic issues as well. Wayne said Milton needs a septic ordinance to require inspections. He hoped the State will work with the people. Virginia asked him to let us know if MCC can help. He said he's going to a meeting tomorrow about a ten year plan. He stated the Watershed Plan is great. Virginia said she'd posted something on Facebook. Wayne said he'd send Virginia a condensed version, including pictures, of the Plan. Virginia asked for

[pictures as well.](#)

#14: Trail Volunteers Report: Virginia explained to Kyle about monitoring of properties and keeping a report. Josh told him that if he sees anything out of the ordinary to take a picture so we can post it.

#15: Virginia mentioned that a licensed forester contacted her about the possibility of making a new trail map. [Peter Goodwin,](#) tThe person who used to do this, is [now Board Chair of](#)with MMRG. Virginia then showed a MMRG brochure about their new plan which will be presented on August 20th.

The date of the next meeting was confirmed [as July 1](#). **Steve then made a motion to adjourn; Josh seconded and all were in favor.** The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 and streaming was turned off.