

## MEETING MINUTES

Barrington Conservation Commission

June 4, 2015 7:00 PM

Barrington Elementary School Annex, Professional Development Center

**PRESENT:** John Wallace, Chairman  
Ken Grossman  
Marika Wilde  
Susan Gaudiello, Selectmen representative  
Alison Desmarais, Alternate

**ABSENT:** Anne Melvin  
Pam Failing, Vice-chair  
Glenn Gould, Alternate  
Peter Sandin, Alternate  
Julia Guimond, Alternate

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Barrington Conservation Commission (BCC) Chair John Wallace called the meeting of June 4, 2015 to order at 7:00.

**DELEGATION OF VOTING MEMBERS** Chair John Wallace confirmed the presence of members as above.

- 1) Sightings reported were of a large tamarack tree in Durham, ducks with ducklings, geese with goslings, and snapping turtles.
- 2) Guests:
  - a) Dylan Thisse, wetland permit for Rochester's spillway improvements  
Dylan Thisse, engineering consultant, presented the plans for spillway modifications ordered by DES on the Rochester west end dam. He stated that the spillway will get deeper, not wider, and the water level should not change. The plans involve removing existing concrete in one area and putting in flashboards to automatically allow flow in high water events, with the high water going over the spillway and avoiding the dam near the Rochester water treatment plant. It involves under 3,000 sf of impact with only 450 sf impact on wetlands. John asked what the nature of the wetland is that will be impacted, and Dylan responded that it is a wet meadow and is now mowed.

**Susan Gaudiello made a motion to support the proposed revision for the dredge and fill permit. Ken Grossman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of five (5) to zero (0) in favor.**

The chair signed the copies of the permit application.

- b) Randy Orvis: proposed building near Nippo Pond (map 112 lot 27); Lynda Brushett, abutter to project. ZBA would like a recommendation from the Conservation Commission.

The owner is requesting a variance for a setback from Nippo Pond and also a variance from a perennial stream. The lot, .41 acre, was an existing lot of record made larger by lot line revision (2008). The proposed year round house is 26' by 32' with a 8 foot deck on front. John shared comments that BCC member Pam Failing had sent to the group. Pam indicated that she doesn't think this lot was intended for full time residence, a rectangular house would fit better on the property and minimize setback disturbance, the deck is an unnecessary encroachment and she asks how the request constitutes a hardship.

There was discussion as to whether the perennial stream is the only inlet to Nippo Pond. Lynda Brushett stated that it is the only stream going in, and she added that Nippo is a small watershed with a very limited flushing capacity. Zoning requires a 75' setback to a perennial stream as well as for the lake. Bill

—Totherow expressed concerns with the low flushing in summer, and Lynda stated that they would like to maintain as much buffering around the lake as possible. Bill went on to explain how the lake has been monitored for water quality and in the recent years has experienced cyanobacteria (blue-green algae) blooms. He said that these blooms seem to be due in part to phosphate concentration from erosion runoff, and it's important to have a vegetative buffer to help keep the phosphate out. Lynda Brushett said that perhaps a smaller house would be more appropriate. Ken wondered if it would be impossible to build something smaller, acknowledging that it might be more difficult, but not impossible. The group expressed concerns with the cutting that had been done on the adjacent lot and noted that since there had been shoreline violations there, extra vigilance was desired in this project.

**Susan Gaudiello made a motion to have John write a memo to the ZBA stating that the BCC feels it is possible to have a revision of the plans so that there is less of an impact. The memo will state that the variances as proposed should not be granted and will also mention other concerns addressed above. Alison Desmarais seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of five (5) to zero (0) in favor.**

John will do a memo to ZBA

- c) Andy Fast, County Forester. Fred Bussiere, John Huckins: forest management plan(s) Andy, working for UNH cooperative extension, said he his available to

serve as a resource and facilitate the process of developing a forest management plan. He could assist with doing an RFP, but would not be doing the actual contracting services that a private forester would provide. He mentioned that sometimes people like to involve cooperative extension as an impartial third party. Andy suggested that Thompson School students might be appropriately used on smaller lots where it's more a marginal project, and properties are not as actively managed.

3) Approval of minutes of May 21, May 31, June 3

Before the approval of minutes Alison asked about the original contract with the Messingers (for SATWaSR) as it relates to cost and if there were new costs anticipated in work for erosion barriers. John indicated that all work previously contracted through NRCS has been completed.

**Alison Desmarais made a motion to accept the minutes of May 21 as amended. Marika Wilde seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of five (5) to zero (0) in favor.**

**Alison Desmarais made a motion to accept the minutes of May 31 as amended. Ken Grossman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of five (5) to zero (0) in favor.**

**Ken Grossman made a motion to accept the minutes of June 3 as amended. Susan Gaudiello seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of five (5) to zero (0) in favor.**

4) Complaints: cutting of trees along Mendums Pond

5) Old Business

a) Conservation Projects:

i) "Bumfagging Hill" project: SELT has taken over Duane Hyde says they're still in negotiations with the owner.

ii) Barr property, 58 acres, Seavey Bridge Rd.: could we help with appraisal costs? SELT wants to put together a proposal that would have PREP pay half of the amount of an appraisal. SELT wondered if the BCC would be willing to pay 1/4 of the appraisal or the remaining 1/2 of the appraisal cost. John estimates half the cost could be about \$3,000-\$4000.

**Susan Gaudiello made a motion to authorize expenditure of up to \$4,000 toward the cost of the appraisal of the Barr property, subject to the understanding that the land be eventually conserved. Ken Grossman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of five (5) to zero (0) in favor.**

iii) Myhre-Helfgott property, 102 acres, Tolend Rd

The group discussed priority for conservation of the Barr and Helfgott properties and it was decided that the Barr property is of higher priority.

b) Parking area and road/trail maintenance on Rte 125 entrance to SATWaSR (from site walk). Discussed above.

c) Parking area & improvement to Town Farm Road for access to Calef Preserve: another \$15,000 is needed. It has been determined that the road does not have to be 25 feet in width. There is a request for another \$15,000 from the CC to extend the road. This would be \$30,000 total for the parking lot and road extension. Susan suggested a conversation with John Scruton to find out the procedure for bids and pricing on this job. Ken will talk with John Scruton on Monday.

d) Goals for 2015

iv) Calef 'roll-out' to public, trail work, restoration, etc. This was discussed above.

v) Involve schools – Trails Committee working on trails behind Middle School

vi) conservation plan:

vii) proposed changes to zoning, subdivision, etc.

(1) Recommendations about wetland buffers

(2) Aquifer overlay district

e) Calef Isinglass River Preserve

viii) NRCS needs to remove or replace culvert on perennial stream.

ix) Estimate of \$15,000 for Calef parking area. This will be 300 yards of fill, 160 yards of gravel, renting a bulldozer and excavator. This was discussed above.

f) New watershed map John requested that a large map get laminated. Marika will look into this and keep the map. John posted an 11 x 17 copies in the Town Clerk's office.

6) New Business:

b) Planning Board: Capital Improvements Program update

c) Dredge and Fill applications

d) Treasurer's report (Pam)

e) Legislative updates (Ken)

7) Announcements/correspondence:

f) DES: Shoreland violation, Harlan Dr. (Nippo Lake)

g) Meeting location: we will start meeting at the Middle School, probably library. Details TBA

h) Thank you from SELTNH

8) Other committees: Trails Committee, IRLAC, ORLAC

9) Easements:

10) Next scheduled meeting: June 18

*Items remaining on agenda, but not expected to be discussed at this meeting:*

- i) Conservation Projects:
  - i) Brookwood Shores property
  - ii) Cook property
  - iii) Cullen Woods property – town has taken title to open space
  - iv) Renna property
- j) Emerald Acres (Topaz Dr.) culvert replacement project

**Ken Grossman made motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:50. Susan Gaudiello seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of five (5) to zero (0) in favor.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Pat Lenzi

**NOTE: THESE ARE SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES ONLY. A COMPLETE COPY OF THE MEETING AUDIO IS AVAILABLE AT THE LAND USE DEPARTMENT**