

Barrington Conservation Commission  
January 5, 2017, 7:00 PM  
Barrington Elementary School Conference Room, Rte. 125

PRESENT:                    John Wallace, Chair  
                                 Pam Failing, Vice-chair  
                                 Anne Melvin  
                                 Marika Wilde  
                                 Susan Gaudiello, Selectmen liaison  
                                 Ken Grossman, Alternate

ABSENT                     Peter Sandin, Alternate  
                                 Glenn Gould, Alternate

**CALL TO ORDER**

Barrington Conservation Commission (BCC) Chair John Wallace called the meeting of January 5, 2017 to order at 7:00.

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

- 1) Sightings As usual, turkeys were sighted. Also reported were winter birds.
- 2) Guests: Dan Ayer as a public citizen.
- 3) Complaints:
- 4) Approval of minutes of November 17, Dec 1, Dec 15, Dec 19

**Pam Failing made a motion to approve the minutes of November 17. Anne Melvin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of five (5) to zero (0) in favor.**

**Pam Failing made a motion to approve the minutes of December 1. Marika Wilde seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of five (5) to zero (0) in favor.**

**Pam Failing made a motion to approve the minutes of December 15 as amended. Anne Melvin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of five (5) to zero (0) in favor.**

**Pam Failing made a motion to approve the minutes of December 19. Anne Melvin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of five (5) to zero (0) in favor.**

5) Old Business

- a) Conservation Projects:
  - i) Calef Isinglass River Preserve:

- (1) Parking area & improvement to Town Farm Road for access to Calef Preserve This will be covered at a future meeting.
- ii) Barr property, 58 acres, Seavey Bridge Rd. The Selectmen have accepted the \$150,000 grant from LCHIP and approved the use of up to \$110,000 from the conservation fund. In the conservation easement deed there will have to be language allowing for a parking area.
- b) Falzone Purchase of Rte 125/Substitute Rd property - ? The property has been sold. The Selectboard voted to sell the property to Falzone.
- c) Aquifer protection district, zoning 9.6 revision – Ken 9.6 Ken had a discussion with Marcia Gasses and John Huckins regarding aquifer protection, and they indicated to Ken that the planning board would require measures to protect the aquifer and limit run-off. Matt Tarr (wildlife biologist and forester) told Ken that he is available to go out and look at individual wetland buffer impacts and give an opinion to the BCC. Marc Jacobs (soil scientist) offered to meet with the group or individuals to think of ways to understand/simplify implementation of 9.6. It was suggested that members of the Planning Board join this discussion. John reminded the group that there will probably be recommendations coming from the state for wetland buffers.
- d) FEMA PDM funds for Oyster River Culvert – still a possibility There are questions about what group should be the applicant for funds, and part of this issue is that the town does not want to take over maintenance of the road. Pam suggested calling Carol Shea-Porter to get an answer from FEMA on responsibility for road maintenance.
- e) Goals for 2017? For the next meeting members will come up with goals for 2017 and review progress on previous goals.
- 6) New Business:
- a. Strafford County Conservation District would like to get better connected with us. Can someone attend their monthly board meeting, 1/11 9-11 in Dover? Anne has offered to attend with one of her objectives being to find out what the SCCD can offer the BCC. It was suggested that someone from the District attend a BCC meeting.
- b. Town Forest: has been under BCC control throughout its history Susan suggested an annual report (standard format) be given to the Board of Selectmen on maintenance of and activities on town owned conservation lands, including the Town Forest. This will be discussed at the next meeting. Pam asked about contacting Marcia to see what she can assist the BCC with regarding administrative tasks and research.
- c. How pay for monitoring expenses? Selectmen have taken paying for monitoring out of the budget. It was decided that monitoring will continue with future discussion about payment from the conservation fund. There was a question about training volunteers to do monitoring, and John indicated that one drawback to volunteers monitoring is the amount of paperwork involved.

d. Accept \$2200 donation to conservation fund John recused himself from this vote. **Anne Melvin made a motion to accept an anonymous donation of \$2200 to go to the conservation fund. Marika Wilde seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of (four) 4 to zero (0) in favor.** John rejoined the meeting.

e. Dredge and Fill applications:

i. PBN for beach sand replenishment, Shepard, 97 Birch Lane John recused himself from this vote. Pam reviewed the plans with the group. It appears that the area had been previously disturbed, and the proposed replenishment is not creating a new beach area. The group agreed there is no objection to this permit. **Ken Grossman made a motion to not intervene in this permit by notification. Anne Melvin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of four (4) to zero (0) in favor.** John rejoined the group.

f. Planning Board: The lot line adjustment was approved for the Haley/McNeil lot but it would have to go to the state for permits if developed in the future.

g. ZBA

h. Treasurer's report (Pam)

ii. \$1500 from TNC for Renna – in Conservation Fund? This money did come in. Currently there is \$382,445 in the conservation fund with \$90,000 anticipated coming in from current use. Susan pointed out that \$220,000 (Stonehouse Forest) and \$110,000 (Barr) is committed to easement purchases.

i. Legislative updates (Ken) There is a bill coming up to deal with wetlands and wetland buffers. Ken also mentioned a proposed bill to rebate LCHIP funds to towns. Ken will keep the group informed about these and other proposed bills.

j. Report from NHACC annual meeting (John) One presentation John attended was Building Excitement About Conservation Commission Work. Some recommendations were to get together with other area conservation commissions, putting events on the town calendar, and involving teens in conservation activities. John also shared information about salamander crossings in the spring, and how this can be monitored. Calling all salamander crossing guards.

k. John has sent out an annual report draft for review.

l. The Selectmen on behalf of the town need to accept the \$150,000 grant from LCHIP for the Barr property.

m. Pam reviewed her concerns with the plans for Rochester to increase the flow from the Berry River into the Rochester Reservoir. She will be sharing these concerns with John Scruton and John suggested she also contact DES. Pam plans to keep the group informed on this issue.

7) Announcements/correspondence:

a. DES

8)Other committees: Trails Committee, IRLAC, ORLAC,...

9)Easements: All completed. Trash problem on SATWaSR needs to be addressed.

10)Next scheduled meeting: January 19

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

b. Conservation Projects:

i. Stonehouse Forest

ii. Cook property

iii. Newsky property (map 266 lot 6), 30 acres, abuts SATWaSR to SW

c. NHACC looking into regional workshop on GRANIT's NH Coastal Viewer

**Ken Grossman made motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:55. Anne Melvin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of five (5) to zero (0) in favor.**