## Barrington Conservation Commission March 7, 2013 7:00 PM Barrington Public Library

## MEETING MINUTES

**PRESENT:** John Wallace, Chair

Anne Melvin

Ken Grossman, Alternate

Clayton Carl

Pam Failing, Vice Chair

**ABSENT:** Peter Sandin, Alternate

Glenn Gould

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Barrington Conservation Commission (BCC) Chair John Wallace called the meeting of March 7, 2013 to order at 7:00.

## **DELEGATION OF VOTING MEMBERS**

Chair J. Wallace confirmed the presence of members as stated above.

- 1) Guests none
- 2) Approval of minutes of February 21, 2013

Ken Grossman made a motion to accept the minutes of February 21, 2013 as amended. Clayton Carl seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of five (5) to zero (0) in favor.

- 3) Complaints none
- 4) Old Business
  - a) Purchase of Leahy land (abuts SATWaSR): 42 acres, appraised value \$63,000 John Wallace said that the Selectmen have approved funding for this property, and he expects closing on the property sooner and the easement later. Two parcels (Dexter) were bought by the town around 2004 and they abut SATWaSR. It is anticipated that SATWaSR could be amended to add the Leahy parcel, and the Dexter property might be added as part of the conservation easement. There

was also discussion about adding a parcel to the easement that is now part of the same lot as SATWaSR, but currently not subject to the easement.

Ken Grossman made a motion to schedule the public hearing for the purchase of the Leahy parcel and its subsequent inclusion in the SATWaSR conservation easement held by the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests. Anne Melvin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of five (5) to zero (0) in favor.

The public hearing is scheduled for March 28<sup>th</sup>.

- b) George Calef: interested in protecting ~300 acres along Isinglass
  John Wallace met with Greg Caporossi from the Trust for Public Land, and
  George and Jim Calef. At this meeting an option agreement was proposed. This
  agreement, now being drawn up by TPL, allows that if the Wetland Reserve can
  come up with money and the town and other sources can provide the difference,
  the Calefs will sell the parcel.
- c) Larenas Land (100 acres, Kelliher Rd.) There are no new developments.
- d) Rossiter land: 3.6 acres off of Rte 202/Swains Rd., interested in selling
- e) Sign for big tree (bigtooth aspen) The money to purchase the sign will come from the Town Forest budget. John Wallace stated that an Atlantic White Cedar found by Charlie Tatham is a state cochampion.
- f) update on SATWaSR forest management no updates
- g) Update trail book John Wallace has contacted some people to update different trail descriptions and guides, and he's inviting others to volunteer for this. John Wallace also mentioned the possibility of having a "Pooh" (as in Winnie the Pooh) trail for children, probably on the Goodwill property.
- h) Web site no news There was discussion about getting the site up and running within the next two months.
- 5) New Business
  - a) Contact reps about LCHIP funding/
    - Anne Melvin made a motion to send a letter from the BCC to our state legislators in support of LCHIP funding. Clayton Carl seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of five (5) to zero (0) in favor. John Wallace will send a letter stating the BCC support.
  - b) Pam: report on NHANRS conference Pam Failing shared the main topics covered when she attended the conference. One theme was stream restoration and the use of new precipitation and weather data. It was mentioned that DES would like to know the location of vernal pools to allow mapping of these areas.

There was discussion about management plans and planning for future weather incidents. Other themes shared and discussed were riparian vegetation, floodplain forest restoration, and trespassing ethics.

Anne Melvin made a motion to have Pam Failing reimbursed for her attendance at the NHANRS conference. Ken Grossman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of five (5) to zero (0) in favor.

c) Appoint a BCC treasurer? Pam Gasses suggested having a treasurer, in part to oversee the Conservation Fund and Stewardship Fund. There was discussion about having by-laws for the BCC.

Ken Grossman made a motion to have Pam Failing serve as BCC treasurer. Anne Melvin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of five (5) to zero (0) in favor.

- d) Intents to cut: none
- e) Anne Melvin shared the wetland buffers sign used by Rochester. There were suggestions as to the shape of the signs, what should be on them, and how to implement the placement of signs. Anne Melvin will check with Marcia Gasses to find out the process for having the buffer signs be part of the permitting requirements.
- f) Village Place 34 acres John Wallace said progress is coming with getting a conservation easement on this parcel.
- 6) Announcements/correspondence
  - a) DES: none
  - b) Info on resources for stormwater management, NROC John Wallace shared materials received from NROC.
  - c) Saving Special Places conference, April 6
  - d) NH Water & Watershed Conference, March 22 John Wallace will be attending the 22<sup>nd</sup> and Anne Melvin thinks she might attend both the April 6<sup>th</sup> and March 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.
- 7) Easements
  - a) Easement monitoring: \$2200 in town budget
  - b) White Crest Conservation easement deed contains errors (with Rochester)
  - c) Schulz/Carbone easement amendment
  - d) Lakeview Estates easement problems: advice from Tom Masland (via Sam Reid)

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Advice from Tom Masland suggested "if the insult is minor and not leading to ecological problems, one solution might be a discretionary approval of what's now in place with strict limitations of expanded uses with affirmative acceptance in writing by the affected land owners." John Wallace will check with the Town Administrator to explore if this is an option to pursue.

Rivers Edge easement problems: Marcia Gasses and Tom Abbott have spoken with the developer and they are working on this issue.

- e) Gravel Pit There is a discrepancy between the town engineer's and developer engineer's reports.
- 8) Committee reports
- 9) Next scheduled meeting: March 28, 2013

Ken Grossman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15. Anne Melvin 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