

## MEETING MINUTES

Barrington Conservation Commission

May 21, 2015 7:00 PM

Barrington Elementary School Annex, Professional Development Center

**PRESENT:** John Wallace, Chairman  
Pam Failing, Vice-chair (joined at 7:55)  
Marika Wilde  
Susan Gaudiello, Selectmen representative (8:30)  
Anne Melvin  
Alison Desmarais, Alternate

**ABSENT:** Ken Grossman  
Glenn Gould, Alternate  
Peter Sandin, Alternate  
Julia Guimond, Alternate

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Barrington Conservation Commission (BCC) Chair John Wallace called the meeting of May 21, 2015 to order at 7:00.

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

- 1) Sightings Alison measured a Black Cherry tree in Newington and she thinks it could be the new state champion. Speaking of trees, John had the pleasure of seeing the state champion Black Gum in Epping. Anne reported a mother bear with three cubs in her area. Snakes, groundhogs, and red efts were also mentioned.
- 2) Guests: Tony Maggio and Jim Farnham attended to discuss cutting along Mendums Pond. Carol Reilly, former BCC chair, had given approval for “brushing and forest improvement” in 1991, and at that time it was noted that the proposed work was in accordance with the homeowners covenant. The lot in question now is not the same lot granted approval in 1991. Tony explained that the current cutting appeared to be a lot of limbing, but no stumps seemed to be displaced. Alison suggested authorizing Tony and Jim to monitor the situation. Jim said he will look

up state regulations for shoreland clearing and share them at the Mendums Landing Association meeting so that all landowners are aware of the state regulations.

3) Approval of minutes of May 7

**Alison Desmarais made a motion to accept the minutes of May 7 as amended. Anne Melvin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of four (4) to zero (0) in favor.**

4) Complaints: cutting of trees along Mendums Pond This was addressed above.

5) Old Business

a) Conservation Projects:

i) "Bumfagging Hill" project: SELT has taken over

ii) Barr property, 58 acres, Seavey Bridge Rd. Jill Barr is interested in the possibility of conserving the property. John has notified Duane Hyde (SELT) of this.

iii) Myhre-Helfgott property, 102 acres, Tolend Rd John received a phone call from one of the owners inquiring about possible conservation of the property, and John referred her to Duane Hyde from SELT.

b) Forest Management plan for remainder of SATWaSR. Alison has read through cooperative extension resources on forest management plans and mentioned that they were helpful. Goals and priorities for SATWaSR as Alison outlined them are water protection, wildlife habitat, passive recreation, limited timber harvest and preservation of particular stands of trees (e.g. cedar stand). John is hopeful that Keri Neal (NRCS) and perhaps Andy Fast will be able to attend a meeting. Pam did contact Don Quigley (UNH) and has yet to hear back. Pam also spoke with Keri Neal about assistance with a forest management plan.

c) Need to hire Mark & Greg Messenger, who built logging road on SATWaSR to a) work on road; b) build parking lot; c) move gate. They will do it for \$3800. John received more specific information from the Messengers regarding the parking lot size and gravel to be used.

**Alison made a motion to conditionally approve the expenditure for the SATWaSR parking lot off Route 125, hiring Messenger. Inc., -with final agreement upon approval of Pam Failing. Anne Melvin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of four (4) to zero (0) in favor.**

Pam arrived later and gave approval to the specifications.

Pam shared information on the access road and forestry trail. She mentioned that the work had been done with the designation of a forest trail, and the crossing was put in as temporary. Technically the crossing should be taken out (within two years) since it was planned as temporary. A question came up as to whether it would be preferable to keep the culvert as a permanent crossing (permit required) or have it pulled. Pam also asked about seeding the open area used for the

landing. A BCC walk will be planned for the 30<sup>th</sup> or 31<sup>st</sup> to look at the area more closely.

d) Goals for 2015

- i) Calef 'roll-out' to public, trail work, restoration, etc. There is a concern with fire and emergency vehicles being able to turn and pass on the road, and it was noted that a structure (i.e. parking lot) cannot be within 25 feet of a cemetery. Susan and John Scruton later joined the group to more fully update developments on the road/parking lot construction. Discussion has to do with possible road widening and the cost that this widening might involve. Pam suggested that the parking lot might be located on the original proposed site.
- ii) Involve schools – Trails Committee working on trails behind Middle School
- iii) conservation plan: *Pam found the folder!*
- iv) proposed changes to zoning, subdivision, etc.
  1. Recommendations about wetland buffers
  2. Aquifer overlay district

e) Calef Isinglass River Preserve

- i. NRCS needs to remove or replace culvert on perennial stream.
- ii. 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 Comments were made on the nice clarity of the colors. John will contact Kyle about maps getting printed.

6. New Business:

a. Conservation Projects

- i) Barr property Discussed above
- ii) Myhre-Helfgott Discussed above

b. Planning Board

The ZBA would like the CC to give input on two proposals coming before them. (Nippo and Ayers) These will be covered at the next meeting.

c. Dredge and Fill applications

d. Meeting reports:

- i. Soils Conference (John) Soil scientist Marc Jacobs spoke about ethics among wetland scientists. He expressed concerns that wetland delineations are not always being done honestly, and he suggested that it could be helpful to have a second opinion on wetland delineations.  
There was a presentation on aerial photography with very precise mapping (LIDAR).

- e. Treasurer's report (Pam) *Pam reported* that at the end of April there was \$297,618.47 in the Conservation Fund. Carolyn Berryment will print out what has come in and expenditures for the last 6 months.
  - f. Legislative updates (Ken)
7. Announcements/correspondence:
- a. DES:
  - b. John has been reappointed to ORLAC
  - c. Forest Notes
8. Other committees: Trails Committee, IRLAC, ORLAC
9. Easements:
10. Next scheduled meeting: June 4

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

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

**Marika Wilde made motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:20. Pam Failing seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of six (6) 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**