

DEERFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes – November 12, 2012

Members Present: Wes Golomb, Herb McKinney, Dave Linden, Serita Frey, Erick Berglund, Kate Hartnett
Members Absent: None
Guests: Charlie Bouchard, Kathleen Sullivan and Jared Thistle

Therapeutic Horse Riding Facility Proposal for William’s Property: Charles Bouchard, Kathleen Sullivan and Jared Thistle attended the meeting to continue discussion of their proposal. The DCC reviewed a draft document outlining proposed best management practices and discussed the need for a more detailed management plan. It was determined that the DCC will work iteratively with Mr. Bouchard and his business partners to develop a comprehensive management plan that will be to everyone’s satisfaction. The DCC will work with the original documents that Mr. Bouchard sent and will make suggestions for revisions/additions. The Bear-Paw land management committee discussed the proposal and raised three issues: the appropriateness of having an outdoor riding arena on the conservation easement; whether the proposed number of animals per unit of land area is appropriate; and whether commercial activities (e.g., riding fees) are appropriate on the easement portion of the property. The DCC reiterated that this is the first time that such an activity has been proposed for a conservation easement in Town and that due diligence is needed to ensure that the wishes of the easement grantor and the spirit of the easement are met with this proposed activity.

Town Forest Protection Project: Further discussion of the easement deed was postponed till next month due to the absence of Dan Kern and Frank Mitchell.

Approval of Minutes: Herb McKinney made a motion to approve the October minutes. Wes Golomb seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion was passed unanimously.

Financial Officer’s Report: Erick Berglund made a motion to approve three invoices; the Lamprey River Watershed Association (annual dues of \$100), Bear-Paw Regional Greenways (annual dues of \$100), and the NH Association of Conservation Commissions (annual dues of \$265). Wes Golomb seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously. The Conservation Fund received Land Use Change Tax in the amount of \$6200 for an ending balance of \$243,367.39. The balance of the operating budget is \$1042.38 as of October 15, 2012. Erick Berglund and Serita Frey met with the BOS on the DCC 2013 budget request. Erick made a motion to reduce the 2013 budget by \$10 because annual dues were \$10 less than anticipated. Herb McKinney seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

Regulated Wetlands: The DCC was alerted to a wetland disturbance on Parade Road where an excavator was used to remove a beaver dam. It also appears that a culvert under the road has been removed and replaced. As far as DCC knows, no DES permit was obtained for this work. Erick Berglund will contact Alex Cody, road agent, to inquire about this work.

AmeriCorps Update: The AmeriCorps volunteers completed an impressive amount of conservation-related work during their time in Town. Kate Hartnett noted that a half mile trail was laid out and cut at Peg King Park. Herb McKinney reported that the team spent several days on the Boisvert property installing water bars on the main logging road to prevent soil erosion. Dave Linden assisted the team in clearing a trail on the Lindsey Flanders easement. Erick Berglund reported that two new bridges were installed in the Great Brook Corridor with the assistance of Alan Perkins and Jack Hutchinson. A high

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water trail was made on the Chase Lot. The AmeriCorps Team was trained by Wes Golomb to do energy audits. The DCC wholeheartedly thanks the AmeriCorps volunteers for their hard work on behalf of the DCC!

Announcement: The Planning Board will meet on Wed. November 14th at 7:15 pm with the Pleasant Lake Preservation Association to discuss the Pleasant Lake Watershed Overlay zoning ordinance and potential revisions to the ordinance that will be on the 2013 ballot.

Adjournment: 9:20 PM

The next meeting is presently scheduled for December 10, 2012.

The draft minutes were prepared and submitted by Serita Frey. Final revisions to these minutes will be contained in the minutes of the following meeting, after approval by the Deerfield Conservation Commission