

DEERFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes – May 12, 2014

Members Present: Erick Berglund, Deb Campelia, Serita Frey, Kate Hartnett, Dave Linden
Members not Present: Wes Golomb
Visitors: Jack Hutchinson

Serita Frey called the meeting to order at **7:30 PM following the adjournment of the Public Hearing.**

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the **April 14th meeting** were approved unanimously as written.

Financial Officer's Report: Erick Berglund reported an **estimated balance in the Conservation Fund at the end of April of \$250,984.40** including interest and net of a payment to Upton and Hatfield. A deposit in the amount of \$6000 representing DCC's portion of the first quarter 2014 Land Use Change Tax payments was also included in the balance; however details of the payment(s) were not readily available. A more detailed accounting from the Town Treasurer will follow receipt of the April 2014 bank statement.

Mr. Berglund requested **approval to pay the Concord Monitor invoice in the amount of \$55.62** for publication of the May 12th Public Hearing. A second by Serita Frey was followed by unanimous approval. Mr. Berglund also moved to pay **\$800 to Heath Appraisal Services** for the appraisal performed for Project #28. The full amount previously received from the applicant is on deposit pending a decision with respect to the project. Dave Linden seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Jack Hutchinson approached the DCC requesting its **participation in the planning of the 2016 Deerfield 250th Anniversary celebration.** Mr. Hutchinson, in the capacity of Town Moderator, is soliciting feedback from various Town groups (possibly 20 to 25) to contribute suggestions on how to proceed. The goal is to form a planning committee having a minimum of nine members (there were 80 in 1966). **An initial meeting will be held to brainstorm** based on the results of his research and to **decide on a sub-structure. A second meeting at the end of June** would be held to **form leadership positions, define activities and get workers together.** Serita Frey suggested that perhaps the nine leadership positions could head the committees. It is anticipated that the celebration would be a **week-long event** that would take place at the Deerfield Fairgrounds sometime after July 4th, but could also **include affairs held at various times during the year.** In addition to a list of events held in 1966, ideas that have been suggested are presentations of foods of the period and about now-closed early roads, tours of historic homes and old mill sites, a parade, and a re-enactment of the delivery of the Charter to the Town when it broke off from Nottingham. <http://history.rays-place.com/nh/deerfield-nh.htm>.

For the DCC, this could **include looking back to 1766 at 250 years of conservation.** It could also **partner with the Trails Club** to have tours of various properties. Kate Hartnett noted that not surprisingly, the old farms were located on the land with prime agricultural soils based on historical maps. It was suggested that Mel Graykin be asked to perform research which could provide a retrospective of the changes that have occurred over time. Serita Frey also suggested an exhibit of the works of Richard Moore, whose unique photography superimposes vintage photos over present-day images. Of note was the organizational expertise of the Parks and Recreation Department. Deb Campelia also agreed to take on the role of *school liaison*. Mr. Hutchinson summed up **the objective of the event to be a good celebration of where we came from and who we were.** Kate Hartnett requested that the 250th Anniversary be kept on the agenda as a monthly topic of business.

Nonpublic Session: At approximately **7:54 PM Serita Frey moved to enter a Non-public Session** under RSA91-A:3,II(d), *Consideration of the acquisition, sale or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community.* **A roll call vote was taken with Erick Berglund, Deb Campelia, Serita Frey, Kate Hartnett and Dave Linden each voting in favor of the motion.**

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At approximately **9:12 PM the non-public session adjourned** and the regularly scheduled meeting resumed. It was noted that prior to the adjournment of the session, **a roll call vote to seal the minutes of the nonpublic session was taken**, ...*divulgence of which would render any proposed actions ineffective for reasons given under RSA91-A:3,II(d)*. **with Erick Berglund, Deb Campelia, Serita Frey, Kate Hartnett and Dave Linden each voting in favor of the motion.**

Town Forest Protection Project: Serita Frey has submitted a request to be placed on a **June BOS Agenda for the signing of the Easement Deed to Bear-Paw.**

Trails Committee: There is nothing from Jim Deely to report at this time. Erick Berglund's report of his **meeting with Town Administrator Michael Wright** regarding the proposed sub-committee will be placed on the agenda for June. Topics addressed were Financial Structure, Fund Raising and Membership.

Freese Easement Violation: Dave Linden spoke with an abutter and confirmed that there had been **snowmobile activity on the Freese Easement** which has since been replaced with **4-wheeler activity**. Deerfield Police are reported to have spoken to the owners of one home. Frank Mitchell also informed Kate Hartnett of **snowmobile activity on Lindsay-Flanders** which has deed restrictions specifically prohibiting roads and vehicles on the property. Ms. Hartnett noted that it is the responsibility of the Deerfield Police Department to enforce the prohibition. **Dave Linden will speak with officers at the Police Department** to request that they pay another visit to the alleged offender(s) and to ask that DCC be informed of their identities if possible. Mr. Linden suggested that the Police Department may wish to defer to Fish and Game on the matter. Serita Frey suggested that DCC once again **attempt to cultivate a relationship with Police personnel** in view of recent changes in the Police Department.

UNH Student Project: Deb Campelia, Serita Frey, Erick Berglund and Herb McKinney were in attendance for the **UNH student summary reports** for the *Land Conservation Principles & Practices* course, including the **Chase, Dowst-Cate and Lindsay Flanders parcels**, which was presented on **Friday May 2nd**. DCC received four sets of reports and an e-version will be added to the DCC website upon receipt. Based on their findings there is a major problem with Beech Bark disease at Dowst-Cate. Kate Hartnett noted that **Charlie Moreno does not concur with their recommendation to perform a selective harvest**. Ms. Hartnett also will follow up with Frank Mitchell to request he add the date and source information to the fact sheet supplied to the DCC.

New Business: Kate Hartnett reported that **Phragmites are now over-running the Mahoney parcel** as a result of their backfilling an area on the property in spite of warnings against doing so. Ms. Hartnett suggested that the issue be placed on the agenda for next month. It was decided that members would have a discussion prior to extending an invitation to the owners to meet with the DCC. Dave Linden also suggested extending an invitation to Road Agent, Mark Young to meet with the DCC to get to know one another.

Kate Hartnett has been sworn in, renewing her status as a member of the DCC. Her term of office will run through April of 2017. **Wes Golomb will also be renewing his membership** for the same term.

Chair Frey **adjourned the meeting at 9:30 PM.**

The Next Meeting is Scheduled for Monday, June 9th

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