

DEERFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes – June 13, 2016

Members Present: Erick Berglund, Deb Campelia, Serita Frey, Wes Golomb, Kate Hartnett
Absent: Jim Deely
Visitors: John Duffy, Kate Kirkwood, Russell Cole

The meeting was **called to order at 7:05 PM** by Chair, Serita Frey

New Business:

John Duffy was visiting on behalf of the Pleasant Lake Preservation Association (PLPA). Mr. Duffy informed the members that the PLPA would be holding its Annual Meeting on July 23rd from 9 AM to 12 PM at the Deerfield Town Hall. The meeting will be combined with a presentation by Forest Bell of FB Environmental on the Watershed Restoration Project for Pleasant Lake which was funded with a 2014 NH DES 604b Grant, won by the PLPA and the *Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission* (SNHPC). Mr. Duffy will present additional information to the DCC members at DCC's July Meeting. Erick Berglund suggested that the FORUM would be an excellent means of getting the word out to the public. Kate Hartnett commended the PLPA volunteers for the excellent work they have been doing to improve water quality.

Visitors Kate Kirkwood and Russell Cole came to ask the DCC for its input in the possible conservation of a property which Ms. Kirkwood is currently leasing and wishes to purchase. Ms. Kirkwood was wondering what conservation funding mechanisms might be available to her.

At approximately 7:15 pm **Serita Frey suggested that the information should not be shared in a public session and moved to enter a non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II(d).** **Wes Golomb seconded the motion which was followed by a roll call vote, with Berglund, Campelia, Frey, Golomb and Hartnett voting in favor of the motion.** At approximately 8:10 pm the members re-entered public session. **A motion to seal the minutes was seconded by Wes Golomb and was followed by a roll call vote with Berglund, Campelia, Frey, Golomb and Hartnett voting in favor of the motion.** Chair Frey noted that no decisions were made during the session.

Approval of Minutes: A motion by Chair Frey to approve the minutes from the **May 9th regular meeting** was seconded by Erick Berglund and unanimously approved; however the motion to approve was later reopened at the request of Kate Hartnett. The following revisions were made:

Edits to 5/9/2016 Meeting Minutes

(Page 1 – Paragraph 1)

...loading in the North Branch River on the ~~Canon~~ **Cannon** property
...would benefit from the **de-escalation** of stream speed and the increase in nutrients that would occur.

(Page 2 – Paragraph 2)

...Rick Van de Poll ~~of the~~, **consultant to the** *Northwood Area Land Management Collaborative* (NALMC).

(Page 3 – Paragraph 3)

...allowed to remove trees downed in the Dowst-Cate Town Forest due to **ongoing** road clearing by Eversource

(Page 3 – Paragraph 4)

... having a state permit to cut **on State lands.**

(Page 4 – Paragraph 2)

Ms. Hartnett will communicate ~~their~~ **DCC's intent within 14 days**, ~~findings/recommendations to the DES~~
~~within the allotted 14 day response period~~ **and provide findings and recommendations within 40 days (June 17th 2016).**

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Serita Frey and Erick Berglund moved and seconded a motion to approve the May 9th minutes which passed with one abstention by Wes Golomb who was absent from the May meeting.

Finance: The **balance at the end of March was \$277,448.03**. Financial Officer Erick Berglund has received no additional information from the Town Treasurer to date.

Northern Pass (NPT): May 15th was the deadline for the NHDES to provide the Site Evaluation Committee (SEC) with an interim progress report of its review of the Wetlands and Alteration of Terrain permit applications. **Kate Hartnett wrote, on behalf of the DCC, to Crain D. Rennie of the NHDES to “...highlight information previously submitted regarding both the Wetlands Permit process and a long and documented history of wetland violations by PSNH/Eversource in Deerfield.”** Ms. Hartnett **also sent correspondence to Darlene Forst of the NHDES**, commenting on NPT Shoreland practices in which she forwarded a copy of the Lamprey Rivers Advisory Committee letter of November 9, 2015 on Shoreland issues. Also submitted were images along the Pemigewasset River provided by Charlotte Crane of the Southern Non-abutters Group of Intervenor.

Erick Berglund explained that the **intervenor groups have just submitted data requests asking Northern Pass for specific details pertaining to the project**. Each group was limited to fifty questions and NPT has one month to respond. The anticipated date for the final SEC decision is September 2017.

Project #31: At approximately 8:15 pm **Kate Hartnett moved to enter a non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II(d)**. **Wes Golomb seconded the motion which was followed by a roll call vote, with Berglund, Campelia, Frey, Golomb and Hartnett voting in favor of the motion**. At approximately 8:30 pm the members re-entered public session. **A motion to seal the minutes was seconded by Wes Golomb and was followed by a roll call vote with Berglund, Campelia, Frey, Golomb and Hartnett voting in favor of the motion**. Chair Frey noted that no decisions were made during the session.

Easement Monitoring: The monitoring report for the **annual monitoring of the Kay Williams Easement** is in process. During the monitoring it was noted that the town-owned **Yeaton conservation land (Map/lots 405-98 and 99) had been “posted”**. **Erick Berglund will follow up with Frank Mitchel**, who discovered the postings, and wished to **confirm the boundaries prior to taking any further action**.

Easements and Land Protection: The **bid process** for placing a permanent easement on the **Boisvert Town Forest** is being researched.

Forestry and Land Management: Confirmation that the proceeds from the harvests are correctly being deposited in the Forestry Fund created for this purpose is pending.

Research on the Alvah Chase lot has confirmed that the tax-deeded, town-owned parcel **Map 413 Lot 96 does exist but is only 10.9 Acres** and was not designated a Town Forest. Town Forester, Charlie Moreno had intended to create a forestry plan for the parcel but has been **instructed not to spend any time or money on Alvah Chase**.

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Regulated Wetlands: Comments and recommendations are being crafted by Kate Hartnett and Frank Mitchell for submission to the NHDES in response to the **Scott Sybert Wetlands Permit Application File #2016-01285 for a driveway crossing on Map 408 Lot 16**, 93 Coffeetown Rd.

Wetland Notification: Complete Forestry Notification – Jill Holmes – South Rd – Map 420 Lot 14

Phragmites: Serita Frey has spoken with the landowner and Kate Hartnett is working with an applicator to arrange for treatment of five stands of phragmites, the largest of which is on Route 43. Frank Mitchell has sent information to the contractor for an estimate and time frame. The contractor would obtain the necessary state permits, with treatment anticipated for the fall. A future consideration might be to bring the matter before the Town for possible funding assistance as was done for the Milfoil in Pleasant Lake.

Membership: Serita Frey asked the members to give thought to recruiting new members to fill vacancies on the commission. The DCC is a seven member commission currently operating with six members and is also entitled to two alternate members. Chair Frey felt that prospects should be approached privately. Candidates should be in sync with DCC's mission.

Announcements and Correspondence: DCC received the following correspondence:

- Bear Paw Invitation: Open House – Saturday, June 18 – 7 pm to 9 pm – R.S.V.P. Dan 463-9400 or info@bear-paw.org
- NH Association of Conservation Commissions (NHACC): DCC has received a guide to planning successful invasive plant management projects from NHACC.

A motion by Chair Frey to adjourn at 8:55 pm was seconded by Deb Campelia and approved unanimously.

The Next Meeting is Scheduled for Monday, July 11th, 2016
(Please check the website for scheduling changes)
townofdeerfieldnh.com

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