

5/3/12

Call Meeting to order: Chairman Strickland called the meeting to order at 7:00PM

Present: Shirley Green, Jeanine King, Dwight Marchetti, Alan Strickland, Town Manger Steve Schneider.  
Guest: Alisa Bonnette and Bob Cavalieri

Review of April minutes: There were not enough members who were present at April's meeting to approve the minutes. Will be approved at the June meeting.

Review of April events:

4/9/12: Strickland received a call to sign up for Canoe/Kayak trip.

4/9/12: Strickland and Steel met with Grafton County forester David Falkenham on the Town's property on Mud Pond Road. See report from David.

April 16, 2012

Allen Strickland  
C/O Enfield Conservation Commission

Dear Allen

I just wanted to re-cap some of what we talked about on the town forest on April 9, 2012. The stand of pine that we looked at was located on a small parcel of town land sandwiched between Mud Pond Road and Crystal Lake Brook/Mud Pond. The area in question is pretty wet, and those sections that are reasonably dry are not very big. In some places I could easily see the wetland edge through the trees from the roadside.

Strictly from a forestry perspective, it is easy to see that the pine along the road is very valuable. It is large straight and tall and there is a lot of volume per acre on this little lot. I was very impressed. The problem is that there really isn't much acreage here hence there isn't as much volume as you might think. I highly doubt that you could get a logger very interested in locating his operation to this spot just to harvest a few truckloads of white pine. Relocating a logging operation generally costs roughly \$2,000 for transportation and startup costs. The logger must then make that up and pay himself and the landowner. Simply stated the value of the wood is there, but sufficient volume for a realistic timber harvest is not.

As I walked the road it was obvious to me that the scenic value of this pine is very high, not to mention how nice it must look from Mud Pond. This pine is also very healthy. It has good crowns and no obvious health issues that I could see hence there is no real reason to suddenly cut this timber. Thinning the pine really is not an option since there is very little volume to start with and thinning it might cause it to blow down. To realistically cut these pines in any way that makes economic sense will require clear-cutting, an act that would severely compromise the scenic value of this lot. I will also mention that since this pine is located along a Class IV road, it is subject to the state basal area law which only allows you to cut 50% of the basal area within 150 feet of the road. To clear-cut this stand would require permission from the NH Division of Forests and Lands.

I strongly recommend not cutting this stand of pine. The scenic value of this stand of pine far outweighs any small amount of money that the town might make from cutting it. Given the legal and logistical hassles that the town would have to endure to pull off such an operation it simply isn't worth the effort.

Thanks for the tour, as always it was a pleasure. If you have further questions please don't hesitate to contact me at 787-6944 or [dave.falkenham@unh.edu](mailto:dave.falkenham@unh.edu).

Sincerely,

David Falkenham  
Grafton County Extension Forester

4/13/12: Strickland talked with Jim Taylor regarding the scenic walkway between Shaker Village and the new bridge. Jim feels work on the walkway should wait until the construction on the bridge and Route 4-A are complete. Strickland agrees.

4/16/12: Strickland walked Suky Marsh Trail and noticed on the north end of the property construction of a bike trail and jump ramps, 75 feet of which are on Town property.

4/19/12: Strickland talked with Peter Helm on the UVLT. The UVLT really wants to be part of the Kayak / Canoe trip June 30th.

4/23/12: Strickland gave an hour and a half forest ecology talk at Lebanon College at the request of Sylvia Dow to her class.

4/29/12: Jeanine King, Phil King, and Strickland cleared rocks from the fields at the Colette / Bicknell Trail head. Phil King brought a tractor to help remove large rocks for the purpose of making the mowing less difficult.

Trivial: Chairman Strickland had a computer crash that resulted in the loss of all his stored data, including Conservation files.

Citizens' Forum: Alisa Bonnette and Bob Cavalieri came to address the proposed Enfield-Mascoma Lake Scenic Walkway. They feel that the idea of using bark mulch and road fabric that the Commission and DPW's Jim Taylor talked would not work over the long term, and proposed using hardpack instead of chips. If affordable, hardpack would obviously be superior to wood chips. Dwight Marchetti encouraged them to get firm cost figures from experts like Steve Patton and Paul Currier. Bob asked the Commission for help paying for signage. The Commission is open to helping when there are firm cost presented to them, but any aide will have to have the vote of the full Commission. See attached letter presented by Mr. Cavalieri and Ms. Bonnette. Everyone, (the Commission, Jim Taylor, and Steve Schneider) agree that any working on the walkway should wait until the bridge and Route 4-A construction are done, which is scheduled for 8/24/12.

Old Business: The Upper Valley Land Trust would like very much to share sponsoring the canoe/kayak trip and also share the expenses (food, honorariums, and port-a-potty) A motion was made by Chairman Strickland that the Commission share the event with the UVLT and that cost not exceed \$250, seconded by Jeanine King. Motion passed unanimously.

Signor, Cronenwett, and Palazzo properties: Dwight Marchetti expressed concern about the lack of follow up from the Commission on these complaints. Much discussion followed on the role of the Commission and its relation to DES. Dwight would like to address the entire Commission at the next meeting regarding the role of follow up on complaints.

Correspondence: DES to Walter C. Paine Trust, Map#8, Lot#42 Shoreland Impact Permit Issued/////DES to North Shaker Village for approval of application to Retain docking facilities/////

Intent to Cut: Margaret Peretti, Map#9, Lot#73

New Business:

Trespass: Strickland informed the Commission of the bike trail and jump on Town property, Map#25,

Lot#37 (Suky Marsh Trail). Town Manger Steve Schneider will talk with Phil Neily and Police to address the situation. Jeanine King sent an e-mail to Steve to officially record the Commission's request.

Wednesday, May 9th, work on Colette Trail by Hypertherm crew. Phil King to be in charge. Expenses to be paid by Upper Valley Land Trust.  
Site visit to Enfield Reservoir

June 30th kayak/canoe trip details to be finalized.

Notice: The Commission will not meet during the month of July due to the Fourth of July. There will be a site visit to the reservoir just off May Street.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by Jeanine King, seconded by Dwight Marchetti