

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MARCH 5, 2009
DPW – 7:00 PM**

Members Present: Joan Fishman, Gary Gaudette, Fred Paradis, Alan Strickland (Chair), Jeff Wells

Excused: Don Crate (Selectman), Shirley Green, Sue Hagerman, Dwight Marchetti

Staff: Steve Schneider, Town Manager

Guests: Kurt Gotthardt

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm.

1. REVIEW OF FEBRUARY MINUTES: Admonishment to review minutes

It was moved by FISHMAN, seconded by PARADIS, to approve the minutes of 11/06/08 as amended. The Motion carried.

STRICKLAND briefly spoke about the importance of reviewing minutes.

2. GENERAL INFORMATION:

Gift to Fred Paradis: STRICKLAND presented PARADIS with a gift, on behalf of the Commission, for his years of service on the Commission.

Jeff Wells: Not discussed.

Town Report: Not discussed.

T-Shirts: Conservation Commission t-shirts are available for purchase. Interested parties should contact STRICKLAND.

3. PRESENTATIONS:

Clearcutting Expose by Jeff Wells and Alan Strickland: postponed to April meeting.

Shaker Bridge Landing Park - Update from Steve Schneider & Commission's desires to improve trail & signage: Schneider advised of his meeting with Lou Barker from the State's Rails Division. He said the State is of the opinion that the Town of Enfield is to take over management of the land along the trail. The State would maintain an 82' right-of-way (41'

on each side of the trail); the Town would manage the remainder of the land. Schneider said the State is creating an agreement for that transfer.

Schneider asked the Commission for guidance with future use of the land. He suggested scheduling a site visit in early May. Schneider said the Town also owns 2 acres of land near the City of Lebanon border, off Johnson Drive. The Commission may want to think about its future use. Life-time leases currently exist on that property.

Schneider said he and Mr. Barker also discussed the location of illegal docks along the trail. The docks owners have failed to provide the State with legal documents showing ownership of the land in question. Schneider said he favors local control for patrolling purposes and suggested it would be easier for the Town to pressure the Roberts and LaCroixs to remove their docks. Schneider said the Town may want to allow docks at the mouth of the river.

The bridge is scheduled to be built in 2010. The clear area will be used for construction staging. The bridge project will take two-years. There will be limited access to the area during construction.

Schneider said the current contract for use of the Shaker Bridge Landing Park has expired. The area was anticipated for use as a boat launch. He asked the Commission to recommend appropriate uses of this land in its current state. He expressed concern for promoting a park-like use. Schneider said he does not want it used as beach-type property.

Budget Information (Current balance + Conservation Fund): postponed to April meeting.

4. DISCUSSIONS:

Ideas, goals, and projects for 2009 year: Not discussed.

John O'brien re: logging and volume reports to town: Not discussed.

Shirley Green re: ideas for speakers to come in regarding roads and runoff: Not discussed.

5. CORRESPONDENCE / UPDATES:

DES & Natural Resources Consulting Services (Smith Pond and Greg Baker): Not discussed.

DES & Shaker Landing Condominium Association (sand on beach): Not discussed.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (survey): Not discussed.

Saving Special Places Conference Saturday, April 4, 2002, 8:30- 4:00: Please contact STRICKLAND if interested in attending.

6. INTENT TO CUT:

Map 15, Lot# 61 (Lockhaven and Jones Hill Rd.): Not discussed.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

Spring site visits: Not discussed.

Brown Property: Not discussed.

Suky Marsh: Not discussed.

Smith Pond: Not discussed.

Spring trail maintenance: Not discussed.

8. CITIZENS FORUM/ABSENTEE MEMBERS COMMENTS

Dwight: There were no communications provided for posting in the minutes.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

Hopkins Property Clearing: Kurt Gotthardt reported to the Commission about a clearcutting project that had been done on the Hopkins property. He provided copies of the Town's Zoning Ordinance related to clearcutting, a letter from the forester who conducted the project, and pictures of the land in question. Mr. Gotthardt does not agree with the forester's claim that the work was done in reaction to the ice storm of 1998. He asked for the Commission's assistance to address the matter.

STRICKLAND asked the members to review the information provided by Mr. Gotthardt and to be prepared to speak about it at the April meeting following the clearcutting expose.

April Meeting Schedule:

It was moved by GAUDETTE, seconded by PARADIS, to reconvene the April meeting on the 9th. The Motion carried.

10. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 8:19 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Rivard, Secretary