

Enfield Conservation Commission Minutes
September 6, 2007

Present: Alan Strickland, Chairman, Joan Fishman, Gary Gaudette, Shirley Green, Sue Hagerman, Fred Paradis

Absent: Leigh Davis (alternate), Don Crate (Select board member)

Town Staff Present: Steven Schneider, Town Manager

Guests: Henry Cross, Dan Kiley

The meeting was called to order at 7pm by Alan Strickland.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Alan Strickland and seconded by Fred Paradis to approve the minutes of the August 2, 2007 with one minor typing correction.

Summation of September 5 Meeting at School House

Several members of the Conservation Commission met at the Lockhaven Schoolhouse at 6pm on September 5th. At 610pm a motion was made by Sue Hagerman and seconded by Fred Paradis to adjourn since the Commission had received no formal request.

Protocol for Conservation Issues Raised by Town Citizens

Alan Strickland asked Steven Schneider if there is a protocol when a citizen raises a conservation issue. Steve Schneider said the issue needs to be brought to a regular Conservation Commission meeting prior to a site visit being scheduled.

Correspondence:

1. Steve Fulton, Knox River Farm, wants to clear the ditches on the farm because overflow is causing the fields to flood. Steve called DES and National Soil Conservation Service. The letter Steve received a letter from the Soil Conservation Service stated that permits are not needed since the land is used for agriculture.
2. Alan Strickland received an email from Cecilia Aufiero regarding the current status of the Natural Resources Inventory done by Watershed to Wildlife several years ago. Steve Schneider was unfamiliar with this. Several members of the Commission recall there were some discs and a computer program and suggested Steve check with Jim Taylor, Director of Community Development.

3. A permit to replace a retaining wall on the Roberts property on Crystal Lake was denied by DES due to lack of follow up.
4. Wetlands complaint of violation was sent to Gerlack on Stevens Street/Mascoma Lake because a woodland buffer was installed without a permit. DES will inspect for possible violation.

Old Business:

1. Suky Marsh Trail Update – Alan Strickland is still trying to contact the new owners of the property regarding permission for the trail to cross private land.
2. ECC Commission Canopy – The top and frame have been reunited. Alan is attempting to repair the frame. If unsuccessful, he will contact the manufacturer.
3. Composting Facility
Alan Strickland proposed keeping the site at the DPW building. Steve Schneider stated that the Board of Selectmen had talked about the same thing at their meeting on Tuesday, September 4th. There is still the issue of what to do with big stumps since the DPW chipper can not handle them. Currently citizens can take stumps to Hammond in Canaan. The goal is to have something in place for Fall cleanup. Modification of the DPW property as a permanent site could not take place until two DES issues are resolved – shed for sand and salt and roof over gas pumps. For the time being the ECC will not pursue a compost facility at the Bicknell Brook site since it would involve modification of the easement with the Upper Valley Land Trust. Steve Schneider felt that the Conservation Commission should create a management plan for the Bicknell Brook property.

A motion was made by Alan Strickland and seconded by Sue Hagerman that the Conservation Commission supports keeping the composting facility at the DPW and limiting the items to weeds, leaves, grass and wood less than six inches in diameter so the chipper can handle it. The motion passed.

New Business:

1. Management Plan for Bicknell Brook Property - This will be placed on the agenda for the October 4th meeting. Members will review Alan Strickland's draft plan prior to the meeting. Alan will invite Jay Waldner of the Upper Valley Land Trust to the meeting and ask him to bring sample management plans.
2. Old Motel Property on Mascoma Lake – Steve Schneider met with the State Bureau of Rights of Way regarding the wooden docks individuals have placed on the property. The State sent letters to the boat owners who have docked boats telling them to remove the boats and docks. Steve Schneider said that the State has informally proposed that the Town of Enfield take responsibility for the motel property until the State rebuilds the Shaker Bridge. This is currently scheduled for 2013. This would enable the Town to have rules and regulations regarding use of the property and more carefully monitor it. Fred Paradis mentioned that he has observed someone pressure washing a bulldozer at the old marina site and that the water is entering Mascoma Lake. Alan Strickland said he would like to see a

- formal plan between the Select board and appropriate bodies regarding this property. Steve Schneider said it would be appropriate for the Conservation Commission to give feedback. The Conservation Commission will make a site visit to the motel property at 6pm on Wednesday, September 19. Alan Strickland will arrange for the proper public notices.
3. Shaker Mountain – Alan Strickland reported that the sign to the Shaker canals that was originally put up by the Conservation Commission was moved twice during the logging operations and is currently prompted up. It needs to be put back in its original position. Also the nearby culvert is plugged and should be cleaned. Either Alan will do this possibly with the assistance of volunteers from the Commission.

A motion to adjourn was made by Joan Fishman and seconded by Shirley Green. The meeting was adjourned at 810pm.