

**TOWN OF FARMINGTON  
CONSERVATION COMMITTEE  
Wednesday, July 13, 2011  
356 Main Street, Farmington, NH**

**Committee Members Present:**Dave Connolly, Art LeClair, Kathy Spangler, Randy Orvis and Kristie Holtz.

**Committee Members Absent:** Scott Kobbe (excused)

**Selectmen's Representative:** Jim Horgan

**Public Present:**Neil Johnson

**At 6:00pm, Chairman Dave Connolly opened the meeting.**

**1. Review of Minutes:**

*Jim Horgan motioned to accept the minutes of 6-8-11 as amended, 2<sup>nd</sup> Randy Orvis. Art LeClair offered a friendly amendment that the minutes are accepted as amended, amendment accepted by Jim Horgan and Randy Orvis. Motion carried with Kristie Holtz abstaining.*

**2. SRC/ Whittum Project Update:**

Jim Horgan motioned to move the discussion to the end of the meeting as the SRC representative was not available yet, 2<sup>nd</sup> Kathy Spangler. Motion carried with all in favor.

**3. Hay Day Update:**

Art informed the Board that he filled out the paperwork to use the Fur/Skull Matching Kit from NH Fish and Game. He also did some research on prizes for the game and found some wristbands he would like to use. The wristbands will say "Conservation Commission" and the back will say "Farmington, NH." The Commission agreed this would be a great idea. *Jim Horgan motioned to allow Art LeClair to order 500 wristbands for Hay Day (with an additional 100 bands free), 2<sup>nd</sup> Kristie Holtz. Motion carried with all in favor.*

**4. SRC/ Whittum Project Update:**

Anna Boudreau of the Strafford Rivers Conservancy and her co-worker came forward to answer questions regarding the project. He explained Mr. Whittum is still waiting for the bank to release the mortgage subordination (a form that assures the bank that the remaining property and structures have the appropriate value to cover the mortgage). Jim asked how long this process will take and the representatives explained that it is a bank process as the mortgage is through a national mortgage company out of Canada and not a local bank. Anna then provided the Commission with a base line document as to the condition of the Whittum property at this time that will go in the file at closing.

5. **Brochure Update** – Dave apologized to the Board for not having the revised brochure ready for today as he is still awaiting the map from Randy. Randy explained his computer is down and as soon as he gets it back and running he will send it over to Dave.
6. **Bumper Stickers** – Dave explained that he contacted the company the Commission bought the t-shirts from and got a pricing list for bumper stickers and a banner. Jim suggested changing the wording to say “I support Farmington Conservation” and leave out “Commission.” Then there was some discussion that the bumper stickers would probably end up thrown away or on the ground. The consensus was to drop the bumper sticker idea but that the banner was a good idea. Discussion was then held that the wording for the banner should be “Support Conservation, Farmington, NH.” It was then decided that the wording on the banner and the previously discussed bracelets should be the same and will be “Support Conservation, Farmington, NH.” Kristie will check the price and quality of banners at Wal-Mart and compare to the one Dave got a quote for. *Randy Orvis motioned to authorize Dave Connolly to purchase a banner for the Commission at a cost to not exceed \$175, 2<sup>nd</sup> Kristie Holtz. Motion carried with all in favor.*
7. **VRAP** – Kathy explained that she has tried numerous times to contact Lori Chase, representative for the VRAP, for the river testing kit but she has been unable to get a response. Art stated he believes the Strafford County Extension office has been closed and he will do some research to get updated contact information for Lori Chase. Art stated that he spoke with a contractor, out of Vermont, that was doing a hydrology study on Poor Farm Road and was concerned that he had no prior knowledge of this bedrock geology study. Jim will follow up with the Selectmen and Town Administrator to find out more information about this study.
8. **Town Forest Update** – Dave asked Randy if he was able to contact Mr. Hayes yet and Randy replied that was one of the things he was working on when his computer died and he will resume the project when he gets his computer back. Dave stated he contacted the Society about the Fire Road easement and their response was “who will pay the approximate \$1500” for the easement. The Road Agent suggested the Commission have a logger cut the 200 ft road and then he could go back and stump it lieu of getting an easement if that is what the Commission desires. Randy stated he feels it is a legitimate expense to pay for the easement and would be the best option. Dave will speak with Alan Gould, Interim Town Administrator to discuss the best avenue to acquire the easement.

Dave also sent a certified letter to the owner of the abutting parcel where there is a boundary dispute in the back and has not yet received a response. Dave will talk to Alan Gould about this issue as well.

9. **Cameras Update** – Dave reported that he ordered two cameras from Brian’s Archery at \$179.99 each and two camouflaged lock boxes at \$50 each; they should be available next week.

**10. Town Maps** – Dave stated he did get a digital copy of the maps from Strafford Regional Planning Commission. Jim suggested making 25 dvd/cd copies for the Commission and Neil Johnson stated he would be happy to do it for the Commission if Dave would email him a copy of the Commission’s logo. *Jim Horgan motioned to authorize Neil Johnson to prepare 25 planning maps CD at his convenience, 2<sup>nd</sup> Kathy Spangler. Motion carried with all in favor.*

**11. New Business:**

- A.** Dave reported that he attended the last Selectmen’s meeting to give them an update on the Commission’s work. One suggestion made by them is to not worry about the Fenderson parcel abutting the Town Forest at this time.
- B.** Dave received an invoice from Norway Plains for their preparation for the Commission meeting for \$412.50. *Jim Horgan motioned to approve the payment of \$412.50 to Norway Plains, 2<sup>nd</sup> Kathy Spangler. Motion carried with all in favor.*
- C.** A Notice of Compliance for King Arthur Drive from NHDES was received as of June 24, 2011
- D.** UNH Cooperative Extension is holding training workshops in September in Greenfield if any Commission members are interested in attending.
- E.** A monitoring report for Labrador Road was received and will be filed.
- F.** A letter from the Strafford County Conservation District was received asking for a donation from the Town to support their endeavors as they are no longer receiving state funding. Dave will make copies of the letter and forward to the Commission members for discussion at next week’s meeting. Art stated it might be beneficial for them to attend one of our meetings to explain what they do for us before we spend the money.

*At 7:37pm, Kristie Holtz motioned to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jim Horgan. Motion carried with all in favor.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandy Sanger

Recording Secretary

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Chairman, Dave Connolly