

**TOWN OF FARMINGTON
CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
Wednesday, August 10, 2011
356 Main Street, Farmington, NH**

Committee Members Present: Dave Connolly, Art LeClair, Kathy Spangler, Randy Orvis and Scott\ Kobbe.

Committee Members Absent: Kristie Holtz (excused)

Selectmen's Representative: Jim Horgan

Public Present: Neil Johnson, Barry Keith, Bambi Miller and Dottie Bean.

At 6:08pm, Chairman Dave Connolly opened the meeting.

1. Review of Minutes:

Jim Horgan motioned to accept the minutes of 7-13-11 as amended, 2nd Randy Orvis. Motion carried.

2. BH Keith:

A. **Farmington Country Club** – Barry Keith explained that he is the wetland consultant for the Country Club and back in 2007 after the flooding the Club applied 200 linear feet of rip rap along the river to stabilize the riverbank. They did this without the proper documentation and have since been told by the NH DES that they need a wetlands application for the work they did. At this point the Country Club would like to construct a bio-engineered banking to vegetate and further stabilize the riverbank. Mr. Keith explained the plan that has been created for the riverbank restoration.

B. **Moose Plate Grant** – Barry Keith, who is also working as the easement manager for the French property, explained that the grant for the woodcock singing area is still up in the air and he is waiting for the appropriate paperwork in order to file the application. The Moose Plate grant is currently open with a deadline in October. For 2012 kiosks and hiking trails are no longer acceptable projects for this grant. The types of projects that are acceptable are more focused on drainage improvements and such, so new culverts and/or water treatment on River Road might be an option. Mr. Keith will be in contact with the representatives from NHDES and NH Fish and Game about their ideas for possible projects because they are familiar with the parcel and their input and support would be very beneficial. *Jim Horgan motioned to authorize BH Keith to continue to research projects for the Moose Plate grant, 2nd Kathy Spangler.* Discussion followed where Art asked if handi-capped access on the sites would be acceptable projects and Mr. Keith replied that he is not sure, but grading of certain areas might be. *Motion carried with all in favor.*

3. Strafford County Conservation District (SSCD):

Bambi Miller, Manager of the SSCD explained that she is present tonight at the request of the Commission as a response to the letter the SSCD sent out. The state has cut their funding and they are looking for donations from the towns that they serve to keep their programs running. Ms. Miller explained that many town residents contact her for information and/or assistance each year. Art said that if the SSCD could have residents that they have helped contact the town so the Commission can see how valuable their services are. Also, the Commission is not sure they can support the SSCD at this time because the money was not budgeted for.

4. Old Business:

- A. **Hay Day Final Preparation** – Art informed the Commission that he received the wristbands for Hay Day. He also received confirmation on the Fur/Skull Kit from NH Fish and Game along with several different free posters and brochures. Art stated that he needs tables and canopies. Scott stated he can bring six chairs, four tables and two canopies. Kathy stated she also has the trees to bring and the Commission decided to raffle them off; Scott will bring the raffle tickets. Art stated he is also creating a dichotomous key for tree investigation. Most of the members plan to be there the whole day.
- B. **Town Forest Update (Boundaries)** – Dave informed the Board that the interim Town Administrator has been in contact with the town legal counsel to create the right of way easement for the Town Forest, also a letter was written to the other abutter in which there is an issue. Randy provided the Board with a draft of a Boundary Line Agreement for the Commission's approval. Dave will forward it to the Selectmen for approval.
- C. **Any Other Business To Come Before the Board** – Dave informed the Commission that he did find out the water department hired the geological study that Art noticed was happening several months ago.

5. New Business –

- A. **Permit By Notification** – Dave read the permit application for a parcel on Ten Rod Road in which two poles will be installed. Randy explained that the Commission does not need to act on this application. If the applicant wanted the Commission's comments then they would have come to the meeting to get input prior to submit the application.
- B. **Snowmobile Right of Way Permissions** – Dave received the new snowmobile right of way easement for approval. *Jim Horgan motioned to sign approve the snowmobile right of way easement for a five year time frame, 2nd Randy Orvis. Motion carried with all in favor.*
- C. **Pike Industries** – Pike Industries requested a letter of opinion by the Commission stating that the Commission has no issues with the performing excavation and sitework on the property owned by them around Rte. 11. At this time there is no information available on the work plans so the Commission decided to table further discussion on this until September.
- D. The Commission reviewed the current budget sheets. The cameras, wristbands and banner have not yet come out of the budget line.

Accepted 10-12-11

E. Jim reminded the Commission that they still need to do a site walk on the MacGruder property at 41 Branson Road. Kathy and Art will schedule a time to go together.

At 8:37pm, Jim Horgan motioned to adjourn, 2nd Randy Orvis. Motion carried with all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandy Sanger

Recording Secretary

Chairman, David Connolly