Town of Francestown Conservation Commission

APPROVED MINUTES

May 5, 2008

A regular meeting of the Conservation Commission was held in the Town Offices on Monday, May 5, 2008 and called to order at 7:32 p.m.

Conservation Commission members in attendance: Carbee, Crooker, Danforth, Freese, Hardwick, Lindgren, Reimer. Secretary Lindgren took the minutes.

The proposed minutes of the 4/7/08 meeting were approved as proposed.

Old Business

1. The Earth Day event on Saturday, May 3 was very successful. More than 30 people showed up for the presentation given by David Jonas regarding his participation in an attempt to document the annual seal pup slaughter in Canadian waters. Afterwards people took numerous blue trash bags and volunteered to clean up specified roadside areas in town, if not that day (as it was raining) then later on when the weather cleared. Chair Hardwick helped coordinate the different areas targeted for clean-up by different people/groups in an attempt to cover as many areas as possible while avoiding duplication. Thanks very much to Abigail Arnold for the irresistible delicious homemade cookies!

The Commission bestowed the following awards for this year's Earth Day Roadside Clean-up. Todd Place received the Best-of-Show Citizens Clean-Up Award for collecting 16 full bags of trash by himself. Jeff Tarr and Chair Hardwick received the Most Fragrant Vehicle award for bringing in 50+ bags from the roadsides to the dump, plus collecting 6 full bags on their own. Ben Haubrich was awarded the Most Awesome Trash Discovery award for finding a V8 engine disposed of on the Russell Station Roadside, with Polly Freese in a close second winning the Most Baffling Trash Discovery award for finding a entire bottle full of sunflower seed hulls.

- 2. A DRAFT of the Forest Management Plan and Map for the Shattuck Pond Conservation Area was received from Forester Ron Klemarczyk, and distributed to the Board members for their review. Chair Hardwick suggested that the area so designated might be submitted to the NH Natural Heritage Inventory for listing as a shrubby oak steep slope exemplary natural community.
- 3. The status of various potential land protection projects was discussed.

New Business

4. The Board discussed the proposed Chase subdivision on 2nd NH Turnpike North, and voted unanimously to advise the Planning Board to include a condition of approval that would specify a permitted building envelope delineating the developable area as currently proposed by the

applicant, in order to protect the excellent wetland habitat on the other side of Dinsmore Brook from any unforeseen potential future development, so that any subsequent landowner would be required to come back before the Planning Board for approval on any development plans outside of the specified building envelope.

- 5. The Board discussed the proposed Lundgren subdivision on 2nd NH Turnpike North, and questioned the delineation of the wetlands area nearest the Turnpike, as there seemed to be cranberry plants and wetland grass types growing outside the delineated wetland area. Those concerns will be forwarded to the Planning Board for their consideration.
- 6. Intent-to-cut notifications have been received by the town from DH Hardwick & Sons for several lots, including 4-7, 4-9 and 4-10; 8-16.2 and 8-100.
- 7. A site walk is scheduled for Saturday 5/17 at 9:00 at the FIHS Recreational Fields to examine a proposed location for a Village Water Company well.
- 8. Chair Hardwick talked recently with Frank Hanchett, who has been out of town since his wife Joan passed away last year. Frank had an interesting suggestion: that the town plant some Redwood trees or Giant Sequioas in the Town Forest. The Board was fascinated by Hanchett's idea, and will do some research to determine viability and potential availability of saplings.
- 9. The next program in the Joan Hanchett Nature Series is scheduled for late June. The topic of How Not To Get Lost In The Woods, and What To Do IF You Do will be presented by Ben Haubrich and Chair Hardwick.
- 10. The Board received notice from the DES regarding the Crotched Mt Rehab Center's application for alteration of terrain for their proposed handicapped-accessible 5% grade trail. The DES is inviting comments on the application. The Board has examined and discussed the plans provided by Bob Todd, and fully supports the proposed trail project.
- 11. Town Department heads were asked for suggestions regarding the content and format of information in their area that might be made available on the Town's proposed new web site. The Board is invited to consider the opportunities.
- 12. Lindgren moved to adjourn at 10:15. Crooker seconded the motion. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted, Bob Lindgren, Secretary