Fremont Conservation Commission 06-04-12 Meeting Minutes



Fremont Conservation Commission Minutes of June 4, 2012

Approved July 16, 2012

Present: Chairman Bill Knee, Member Pat deBeer, Alt. Leanne Miner, Open Space Chairman Dennis Howland and Alt/Recording Secretary Meredith Bolduc.

Chrm. Knee opened the meeting at 7:25 pm.

MINUTES

Alt. Miner made the motion to accept the minutes of the May 7, 2012 meeting as written. Motion seconded by Mbr. deBeer with favorable vote except for Chrm. Knee who abstained as he was not present at that meeting.

SEACOAST UNITED SOCCER CLUB

Map 6 Lot 020-001

The Commission received a copy of the April 17, 2012 Forest Management Plan for SUSC that DES required of them. A copy of the Conservation Restriction Deed is included in the plan. Chrm. Knee said he will review the plan and issue comment. Mrs. Bolduc contacted Eben Lewis of DES and Chris Albert of Jones & Beach about whether a wetland restoration plan has been submitted to DES and if the Town can get a copy of it. SUSC has still not applied with the Planning Board for an amendment to the existing Site Plan Review. This prompted a discussion relative to the amendment process.

TOWN FOREST

GLEN OAKES FOREST AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Mrs. Bolduc reported that she sent a May 9, 2012 e-mail correspondence to Forester Charlie Moreno requesting that he draft and submit a work proposal for a forestry operation in the Glen Oakes Town Forest prior to tonight's meeting so that it could be distributed to the Commission Members for their review. The work proposal has not been received. Chrm. Knee asked her to contact Mr. Moreno again.

Mr. Howland reported that he went for a walk in Glen Oakes and heard gunfire activity in the northeast corner. He assumed that it was some kind of fire arms group practicing in the area.

SMITH LAND ACQUISITION

Mbr. deBeer reported that she and Mr. Howland have been working on publicity for the Smith property purchase (a requirement to get the Moose Plate grant funds). Mbr. deBeer related that the most

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important objective is to credit the funders, that is what Moose Plate wants to see in any publications that are done. She said that before we can get our money some publicity needs to be done.

Mr. Howland showed three different versions of the article that he had written for publication about the Smith property acquisition. One included a picture of Mbr. deBeer, Mike Speltz (SPNHF) and Digit Taylor (LCHIP), and himself at the ribbon-cutting at the site; the second was a detailed publication that did not include a picture; and the third was a condensed version of the second also with no picture. Mr. Howland said his article from the Fremont prospective and that Mike Speltz wrote a piece for the LCHIP website. After some discussion it was agreed that Mr. Howland's article that includes the picture will be sent to the Carriagetowne News, Manchester Union Leader and the Seacoast Media Group. The Members agreed that the detailed write-up should be put on the Town website and possibly linking the publication on the websites of some surrounding communities.

Chrm. Knee said he would approve the release of the publicity for the Smith property purchase to the newspapers and further outreach to the local school and the possibility of doing a Facebook page. The other Members agreed.

The Members thanked Mr. Howland and he left the meeting at 8:30 pm.

TREASURERS REPORT

The Members received and reviewed the Conservation Commission Treasurers Report as of April 30, 2012. Mbr. deBeer raised questions about the titling of categories for tracking some of the spending relative to the Smith land acquisition. The specific concern was over the word "grant" the Split column and what this is refers to. She said grant money spent must be correctly identified as put towards fee acquisition to be in compliance with the grant. Mbr. deBeer will bring her concerns to the attention of the Town Administrator.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no incoming correspondence.

HOUSE BILLS

There were no status changes on proposed House Bills relative to conservation.

HB *1515* – House status -Inexpedient to Legislature which means "may die in committee". Status date – 2-11-2012. Has not gone to Senate.

This bill:

- Changes the tax collection procedures for the current use land use change tax.
- Adds failure to pay property taxes and failure to notify of a qualifying use change to the actions which trigger the land use change tax.
- Requires all municipal land use change tax revenues to be recognized as general fund revenue.

HB 1540 - House status -Inexpedient to Legislature which means "may die in committee". Status date – 2-15-2012. Has not gone to Senate.

This bill:

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 Prohibits the State or any of its subdivisions from granting a conservation easement on public land to a nonprofit organization.

HB 1545 - House status -Inexpedient to Legislature which means "may die in committee". Status date – 2-22-2012. Has not gone to Senate

This bill:

- Specifies that conservation commissions do not have the power to convey interests in real property that they receive or acquire.
- Limits conservation commission contracts to manage interests in real property to a term of 5 years.

HB 1586 - House status -Inexpedient to Legislature which means "may die in committee". Status date – 2-22-2012. Has not gone to Senate

This Bill provides:

- That the selectmen shall hold 2 public hearings at least 10 but not more than 14 days apart on the proposed acquisition or sale
- Upon the written petition of 50 registered voters presented to the selectmen, prior to the selectmen's vote, according to the provisions of RSA 39:3, the proposed acquisition or sale shall be inserted as an article in the warrant for the town meeting.

At 8:55 pm Alt. Miner made the motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Chrm. Knee with unanimous favorable vote.

The next regular meeting is July 16, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

Meredith Bolduc, Land Use AA/Recording Secretary