



**Fremont Conservation Commission
Minutes of
August 5, 2013**

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

Chrm. Knee opened the meeting at 7:00 pm and designated Alt. Miner to be a voting member for tonight's meeting taking Mbr. O'Brien's place.

MINUTES

Chrm. Knee made the motion to approve the minutes of the July 15, 2013 meeting as written. Mbr. deBeer seconded the motion with favorable vote except for Alt. Miner who abstained as she was not present at that meeting.

FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

Present: Forester Charles Moreno

At 7:05 Forester Charlie Moreno met with the Commission and reported that he sent bid invitations to 15 local loggers for a timber harvest operation of approximately 75 acres of the middle section of the Glen Oakes Town Forest. The prospectus included the timber description, woodlot description, sale specifications, bidding procedure and logging specifications. It specified that the bid is for 45+ MBF of white pine, hardwood, and hemlock sawtimber with accompanying pulp, firewood and potentially chipwood in the area of the Glen Oakes Conservation land located at the end of Andreski Drive.

Mr. Moreno said the timber was shown on Wednesday July 24, 2013, 4 bidders attended the showing and another looked at it later as he was on vacation at the time of the showing. Bids were to be submitted to Mr. Moreno by 5:00 pm on August 5, 2013. Bid proposals were received from Eric LaFramboise of Barnstead, Joseph Bolduc of Fremont, Fred LeClair & Sons of Fremont, and William Perron of Deerfield.

Mr. Moreno explained that the estimated volume of timber realized is approximately 30,000 board feet of pine, which would be about 2 truckloads depending on the size of the truck, and 8,000 board feet of oak, which would be about 4 to 6 truckloads, again depending on the size of the truck. This would calculate to about \$5,000 to the owner.

In answer to questions by the Commission, Mr. Moreno explained:

- Stumpage price = value of the tree as it stands and that is the value the landowner receives.
- Mbf = thousand board feet.
- The logger absolutely is required to be insured.

Mr. Moreno said that there are basically two types of logging:

- Skidder: This would require smaller skid trails than with a chipper operation and is a lighter operation.
- Chipper: There would typically need to be more trails than with a skidder and the layout of trails would need to be larger to accommodate the equipment. There would be a need to mark some extra trees so the volumes would be more.

Alt. Miner asked if the advantage of the use of (a piece of equipment known as) a feller buncher with the chipping operation is for more efficient taking of smaller trees without a lot of damage to other trees. Mr. Moreno agreed.

Mbr. deBeer asked if conventional logging gives the Town more money than using a chipping operation. Mr. Moreno answered that there is not much difference.

Mr. Moreno said this harvest is more about improving the forest than about the money. There was a conversation about nutrients and natural forest. There was also a brief discussion about prior timber harvest in the Town.

Mr. Moreno said the forest is marked conservatively for a light cut for the following reasons:

- To help make minimum change of the scenery.
- The Management Plan calls for re-entry every 12-15 years and to allow that the volume taken out today needs to lend for return cutting.
- The forest is split into 3 sections. In 3-5 years the 2nd section can be done and 305 years after that the 3rd section can be done, etc.

The Commission Members opened the 4 sealed bids submitted. Each bid was read aloud and circulated for the Members to review. Mr. Moreno gave a very brief description of the working style for each of the bidders.

There was a question about whether the Conservation Commission or the Selectmen sign the contract and it was noted that this will be determined.

There was a conversation relative to timber tax abatement and Mr. Moreno agreed to contact Town Administrator Heidi Carlson for an appointment to meet with the Selectmen to discuss that issue. He said this issue should not hold up the bid decision and the contract could still be awarded without the decision as to who was liable for the timber tax.

Mr. Moreno and the Commission agreed that Mr. Moreno will summarize and compile the bids based on stumpage pricing as outlined on the bid sheet and logger availability and he will submit his written findings to the Commission for their decision.

Chrm. Knee made the motion to hold a special meeting at 7:00 pm on Thursday August 8, 2013 in the main meeting room at the Town Hall for final decision on awarding the contract.

Motion seconded by Alt. Miner with unanimous favorable bid.

At 9:15 pm the Members thanked Mr. Moreno and he left the meeting.

SEACOAST UNITED SOCCER CLUB

Map 6 Lot 020-001

The Commission received a copy of a July 18, 2013 letter from the Planning Board Chairman to SUSC notify them that SUSC is in violation of condition #4 of the Site Plan approved in February, 2004, and that the Club is required to develop a revised Forest Management Plan that will bring them into compliance with the approved Site Plan and maintain compliance in the future.

Mrs. Bolduc reported that Chris Albert of Jones & Beach, agent for SUSC is scheduled to attend the August 7, 2013 Planning Board meeting to present a revised Forest Management Plan.

CONSERVATION EASEMENT MONITORING

The easements include:

3615/702	Conservation Easement Cornerstone Estates/Dakota Realty Trust 1-35-8, 1-35-9 and p/o 1-35	D-28735
3972/1691	Conservation Easement Tuck Woods 6-64-21, 6-64-22 and 6-64-23	D-30397
4247/1418	Conservation Easement Tuck Woods OS, OS2, OS3	D-31333
4342/1206	Conservation Restriction Deed Not to Further Subdivide Spruce Hill Map 6 Lot 50	D-31622
4408/1234	Conservation Restriction Deed Seacoast United Soccer Club p/o 20-1	D-31731
4435/1986	Conservation Easement Fremont Pizzeria p/o Tax Map 3 Lot 120	D-31624
4890/1139	Conservation Easement Scribner Estates Easement 13	D-31121

The Members have previously agreed that they would need to gather additional information for each easement for monitoring purposes and when that is completed they would approach the Open Space members again to see if they would be willing to do some monitoring of some of the easements at that time.

WORKING PLAN

- Set up a monitoring scheduled for the Town owned conservation easements.
 - compile a list of land with conservation easements.
 - get copies of each easement.
- Prospective Oak Ridge Easement: Review the obligations for grants already awarded including.
 1. Land & Water Conservation Fund (set up for the acquisition of Oak Ridge)
 2. Moose Plate, Recreational Trails Program, PREP Transaction Grant
 3. Smith property: Davis, Fields Pond, Cricket and Wharton, Moose Plate and LCHIP.
- Glen Oakes Forest & Wildlife Management Plan - Review for updates.
- Oak Ridge Management Plan - Review for updates.
- Natural Resource Inventory – Review for recommendations for updates of information and maps.
- Earth Day event (s) for the current year.
- Biothon – discuss a possible event for the current year.
- Reorganization of the Conservation Commission.
- Budget for the following year.
- Compiled of all of the grants that have been awarded to the Town and create a checklist of the requirements of each grant that can be reviewed annually. Any future grant can be added to the compilation.

EVENTS

Previous event suggestions included:

- Birds & bats
- Edible plants
- Wildlife cover
- Sustainable agriculture
- A butterfly garden
- School program that would involve growing plants.
- A presentation on sustainable agriculture.
- Community garden

FALL FOLIAGE HIKE

Mr. Knee read an e-mail from Dennis Howland relative to a date, access location, meeting place and route for a Fall Foliage Hike. The Members agreed to schedule the Hike for 9:00 am on October 19, 2013. They also agreed with Mr. Howland that notice should be put in the September and October issues of the Fremont Newsletter.

KIOSK

Mr. Howland reported via e-mail that plans for the new Kiosk (replicating the other two) are complete, and a materials list has been generated. Materials will be procured later in August, with most of the construction expected to take place off site and final assembly and installation should be accomplished in September. He added that cost estimates are "close" though the Lexan required for the "window" turned out to be \$70 more than expected and they should be able to stay within or very close to the overall budget for all the projects. Mr. Howland further related that the other projects are labor intensive and we need "cooler weather, and fewer bugs".

CONSERVATION COMMISSION ACCOUNTS

Mrs. Bolduc reported that per the Commissions instruction the Open Space account has been closed and the \$86.56 that was in the account has been transferred to the CC checking account.

LAND ACCESS

Mbr. deBeer said she learned from a workshop she attended that in NH you cannot deny a landowner access to their land. She was concerned about the legality of denying Catherine Ladd access to her land for forestry reasons. Chrm. Knee said there could be no comment without further research.

CORRESPONDENCE:

There was no incoming correspondence.

At 9:40 pm Alt. Miner made the motion to adjourn.
Motion seconded by Mbr. deBeer with unanimous favorable vote.

Next meetings:
August 8, 2013
September 9, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

Meredith Bolduc, Land Use AA/Recording Secretary