



**Fremont Conservation Commission
Minutes of
January 5, 2015**

Present: Chairman Bill Knee, Co-Chairman Janice O'Brien, Mbr. Pat deBeer, Alt. Leanne Miner, Alt/Recording Secretary Meredith Bolduc.

Also present: Susan Perry

Chrm. Knee opened the meeting at 7:10 pm.

At the October 6, 2014 meeting Chrm. Knee re-designated Alternate Leanne Miner to fill the vacancy on the Conservation Commission until such time as the Selectmen have appointed someone to fill that vacancy (allowed by NH RSA 673:12, III). That appointment remains in effect.

Mrs. Perry was introduced to the Members as their new Recording Secretary beginning at the February meeting. Mrs. Bolduc said she is stepping down as recording Secretary to the Conservation Commission, but would continue to maintain their files in the Land Use Office and the CC site on the Town website.

MINUTES

Mbr. deBeer made the motion to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2014 meeting as written.

Mbr. Miner seconded the motion with unanimous favorable vote except for Mbr. O'Brien who abstained as she was not present at that meeting.

TOWN FOREST

Gate:

The Commission received the invoice from Knipstein/Conner Enterprises in the amount of \$1,000 for the purchase and installation of the gate at the entrance to the Link Trail on Andreski Drive at the cul-de-sac to Glen Oakes. As authorized at the December 1, 2014 meeting this has been paid from the Residual Account.

Mrs. Bolduc said she left a voice message for Fire Chief Richard Butler advising him that the lock he has can be put on the gate. Chrm. Knee said the Fire Department will hold the only key unless the Commission finds a need to have a key.

SOUTHEAST LAND TRUST – GARRISON PROPERTY

Map 4 Lot 98

The Commission received a November 6, 2014 invoice #55032 from Town Attorney Diane Gorrow in the amount of \$1,295 for services rendered relative to the possible purchase of the Garrison property. As authorized at the December 1, 2014 meeting this invoice has been paid.

Chrm. Knee said Dave Viale of the Southeast Land Trust has not been back in touch with him since the last meeting and he will e-mail Mr. Viale to find out the status of the project of the land acquisition and conservation easement for the Donna Garrison property located at Map 04, Lot 98, off Calef Rd (Rte. 125).

EXETER-SQUAMSCOTT RIVER LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ESRLAC) DUES

The Commission previously received the 2014 ESRLAC dues invoice in the amount of \$150.00. As authorized at the December 1, 2014 meeting this invoice has been paid.

REIMBURSEMENT

As authorized at the December 1, 2014 meeting, Mbr. DeBeer has been reimbursed \$57.00 for copies of plans she needed to obtain in order to update the conservation layer of the Granit data.

CONSERVATION EASEMENT MONITORING

Alt. Miner asked Mbr. O'Brien about her work on the list of Town held Conservation Easements for monitoring purposes. Mbr. O'Brien said she documented information (listed below) and forwarded all the information to Chrm. Knee who was going to create a Google spreadsheet of the data. Mbr. O'Brien said she had not scanned the files. She has deleted those files from her computer but will search for the e-mail she sent to Chrm. Knee that included the information. Alt. Miner said she will continue to scan the files on the Conservation Easement list.

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

Alt. Miner returned the Peter Bolduc, Dakota Realty Trust, and Hjalmer Anderson folders containing conservation easements that she had taken at the last meeting to scan and exchanged them for all (4) of the Tuck Woods folders which she will scan and return at the next meeting.

WILDLIFE AND FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

At 7:30 pm Forester Charlie Moreno met with the Commission to go over the amendment to the Glen Oakes Wildlife and Forest Management Plan.

The Commission previously received an invoice from Mr. Moreno for the update to the Forest and Wildlife Management Plan for the Glen Oakes Conservation Area in the amount of \$7,500. The update includes:

Preparation of a detailed Forest and Wildlife Management Plan for the Smith parcel of the Glen Oakes Conservation Area, in Fremont, New Hampshire.

Project includes: detailed ecological study of Smith parcel and incorporation into and update of the Glen Oakes Forest Management Plan Smith Parcel:

- >Detailed field reconnaissance of new Smith parcels
- >Delineate forest types; assess forest structure and ecological attributes
- >Forest inventory--Statistical analysis of forest/wildlife resources
- >Assess timber potential, habitats, access, management logistics
- >Mapping of surface water features, forest types, trails, stonewalls, other physical features

Overall Plan Update:

- > Revise and update all maps to include Smith parcel: Physical and Natural Features, Core Wildlife Habitats, Forest Types, and Forest Recommendations, Locus, Soil Types
 - >Change property acreages and dates as needed throughout plan
 - >Update reference information
 - >Update natural resource information
 - >Update Property Logistics section, including management compartments, plan implementation, and forest access.
 - >Update Wildlife Resources section. Include Biothon results in listing of confirmed species.
 - >Updates Forest Resources section. Update and recalculate existing data (adjusting for forest growth and for recent timber harvest). Analyze, calculate and include results of statistical inventory of new parcels. Recalculate all tables and charts.
 - >Update silvicultural planning section to include recent harvest.
 - >Update Appendices. Include Smith Lot vernal pool inventory.
- Multiple field visits to the Conservation Area to conduct field-research
Report: Final edits. PDF file and 3 hard copies delivered to the Fremont Conservation Commission.
100 professional hours.

It was noted that \$600 was included in the 2014 Conservation Commission budget and designated as funds to go toward the Glen Oakes Forest and Wildlife Management Plan update. This has been submitted to Mr. Moreno. Full payment is contingent to the completion of the plan.

Mr. Moreno said he said he has not walked the property yet, but he is going to begin the work on the Glen Oakes Forest and Wildlife Management Plan update probably sometime in February if the snow is not deep and it should be finished by June. He said he still has to do the inventory, mapping, data analysis and put it all together. Alt. Miner asked if the Conservation Commission has provided Mr. Moreno with the BioThon results. Mr. Moreno said they had not and Chrm. Knee agreed to send him those results. There was some conversation relative to the content of the BioThon results.

As side information, Mr. Moreno related that he is doing the implementation for the forestry for the Kelleher property. Chrm. Knee said he went on the walk for that property and there were indications from Jill Robinson that it is possible that there may be consideration for a Conservation Easement on the Philips Exeter property in Spruce Swamp.

There was a conversation relative to the forest harvest in Glen Oakes. Mr. Moreno said the next cutting in Glen Oakes could be in the Fall of 2015.

At 7:50 pm the Members thanked Mr. Moreno for his time and he left the meeting.

NOTE: Chrm. Knee said there is an app called “AboutMyWoods” that may be of interest to the Commission Members. It contains map layering and terrains for New England that include terrain, soils, land cover type, watershed and satellite view, providing users with instant and mobile access to information specific to individual parcels and locations. The app can also be used to identify common wildlife, trees, wildflowers, and invasive plants and insects.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION INFORMATION

Alt. Miner said she would be happy to volunteer setting up a table or information area during voting activities to share some of the Conservation Commission’s work including maps, forest plans, etc. This prompted a conversation relative to who would need to be contacted (Selectmen and Moderator). No decisions were made.

CORRESPONDENCE

Received:

- A copy of the December 29, 2014 DES Wetlands Permit approval for the Mike Heaton property in Chester.

WORKING PLAN

The following is a working plan with some results in *italics*.

- Set up a monitoring scheduled for the Town owned Conservation Easements.
(As the holder of an easement, the Town is obligated to monitor each easement once per year.)
Compile a list of land with conservation easements. *This is done.*
 - Get copies of each easement.
 - Generate a checklist for each easement.
- Prospective Oak Ridge Easement: *This is done.*
- Review the obligations for grants already awarded including.

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Approved March 2, 2015

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, PREP.
- 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

CC action item timeline.

January – Review obligations for grants already awarded.

February – Review Forest Management & Wildlife Plans: Oak Ridge & Glen Oakes.

March – Commission reorganization; events to be sponsored through the next year.

April – Pay NH Association of Conservation Commissions

May –

June-

July –

August – Budget review and approval for upcoming year

September – October: monitoring Town owned Conservation easements & reporting on same.

November – Review the NRI

December –

At 9:10 pm Chrm. Knee made the motion to adjourn.

Motion seconded by Mbr. deBeer with unanimous favorable vote.

The next scheduled meeting is February 2, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

Meredith Bolduc, Land Use AA/Recording Secretary