

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 9, 2011, 5:30 p.m.**

SITE VISITS March 9

3:00 PM Maureen Bean, 71 Stevens Road

M. Bean, N. Collier, P. Buccellato, D. McIlroy, E. Chamberlain, V. Smith

4:00 PM Dartmouth College Swim Dock

E. Arnold, R. Schiff, J. Whitcomb, D. McIlroy, V. Smith, E. Chamberlain, R. Bleyler

[Note: no notes were taken at or about the site visits]

COMMISSION MEETING

Members: Chamberlain (chair), McIlroy, Bleyler, Trummel, Morris (recording),
Smith (Absent: Hogue, Mayor, Rassias)

Guests: N. Collier, J. Whitcomb, E. Arnold, R. Schiff, M. Bean

RINKER/STEELE PUBLIC HEARING ON MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDMENTS

There has been no comment on the amendments from either Dartmouth College or the Hanover Conservation Council. The Hanover Improvement Society supports the amendments.

MOTION: to continue the public hearing until the April 13 meeting

Moved by Morris, seconded by Bleyler UNANIMOUS

BEAN APPLICATION TO STATE AND ZONING BOARD

This application to the

state requires Commission approval.

MOTION: to pass on the Commission's sense of support to DES

Moved by McIlroy, seconded by Bleyler UNANIMOUS

DARTMOUTH SWIM DOCK

This application is the first part of an evolving Dartmouth Master Plan for its river frontage. It precedes the finished plan so the dock can be installed and usable for this summer's swimming season. Improved safety, ADA access, and stormwater management are important elements. The Commission complimented the College representatives on an unusually complete and well presented application.

MOTION: to support the application with four modifications to which the College representatives have agreed:

1. that the college project include some detail with regard to the disposal of invasive plants
2. that straw bales be used instead of hay bales to eliminate the need to monitor introduction of invasive plants to the site via hay bales
3. that stone check dams rather than hay bale dams be used on the steep slope areas
4. that a phasing plan be developed for the management of stormwater runoff so that the biofiltration areas are not used to receive stormwater until the vegetation in those areas is mature. (See letter to DES for more detail.)

Moved by Bleyler, seconded by McIlroy UNANIMOUS

A draft of options under consideration for the whole waterfront project was handed out, and individual comments solicited from Commission members.

BIODIVERSITY

Discussion was deferred until the April meeting, with the subcommittee to rewrite its draft documents in the interim.

OPEN SPACE PROJECT Many steps need to be taken before Town Meeting, before voters can decide whether to invest in this project. Phase I is for purchase of a conservation easement on 3.1 acres in Etna. The cost is \$208,000, of which \$150,000 can be taken from the Conservation Fund, and \$58,000 to be raised by solicitation of donations and from Town Meeting vote. The Select Board needs to give approval. Long-term commitment from adjacent owners is needed as a condition of the Conservation Commission's interest in the 3.1 acres. There will be a public hearing in April.

MOTION: to go forward with steps needed to acquire the easement
Moved by McIlroy, seconded by Morris UNANIMOUS

BALCH HILL Vicki has asked Ben Hudson to provide a scope of work for the Commission to review in April

HAYES The Council wants to set up a work day in April for vegetation management. Chamberlain, McIlroy, and Bleyler volunteered to help if they are here.

LAKE HOST PROGRAM The Commission does not know how much it wants to give in 2011.

OPEN SPACE The Memorandum of Understanding between the town and the Hanover Conservation Council has been signed for the King Sanctuary.

Vicki is still trying to line up a forester or Dartmouth students to do NRIs for us. No firm plan yet.

TRAILS The route for the proposed Brook Road Trail awaits Hanover Conservation Council approval.

The Trails Committee is starting a register of "trail adopters". Hypertherm and King Arthur employees are likely to be on it, as well as individuals. The purpose is for monitoring and maintenance.

DPW is on the lookout for useful hemlock or spruce logs for the committee to use for trail maintenance.

THE TRESMOTT COMPANY There is nothing to report.

MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: to approve
Moved by Bleyler, seconded by Chamberlain UNANIMOUS

OTHER BUSINESS The value of our membership in the NH Association of Conservation Commissions was questioned. Members should look at the website.

ADJOURN

MOTION: to do so
Moved by Bleyler, seconded by McIlroy UNANIMOUS