

**Hooksett Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
August 19, 2009**

Call Meeting to Order: 7:05pm

Attendance: Tim Johnson, chair, Cindy Robertson member, James Walter member, Steve Couture vice chair, excused, David Ross Town Council Rep excused, David Hess member excused, Phil Fitandis alt-member

Public Input: N/A

Meeting Minutes: James Walter motioned to accept the meeting minutes from June 3 and June 24, 2009, Phil Fitandis seconded voted unanimously.

Appointments:

Martins Ferry Wetlands Permit –

Commission reviewed the permit for informational purposes and has no issues with it. James Walter motion to support the Martins Ferry Wetlands Permit seconded by Cindy Robertson vote unanimously

Benton Road Conservation Easement

James Walter motioned to accept the Benton Road Conservation Easement Cindy Robertson seconded voted unanimously

Austin Woods Subdivision

BlueMoon Environmental – Nancy Randell

Rescheduled to a later date

Clay Pond Conservation Easement – Dan Kern, Bear Paw

Dan Kern Bear Paw – Handed out an updated budget for all of the properties. We did get \$200,000 from the NHDES ARM grant. In a nutshell we are funded for this project. As of right now the Conservation Commission contribution is \$325,000.

James Walter motioned to ask the town to include tax map 4 lot 26 into the conservation easement for the Clay Pond Project Cindy Robertson seconded voted unanimously.

The environmental assessment has been completed and I have the phase I report. Unfortunately there is a collection of small sites that have been a dumping ground. We have also found a shed on the property line of the French Property. Then directly across from the French property this is a dump site. On Friday West Environmental went out and dug through the dump site. They found some scrap leather which is never a good

thing. This was actually tannery leather. They have sent that out for testing and we should get the results back next week. We are hoping this would be just a cleanup. About 50% of the stuff out in this dump is the leather. I was hoping to get authorization for the extra work.

James Walter motioned to approve an extra \$4,200 for the environmental assessment for Stone Hill Environmental to complete the work Cindy Robertson seconded voted unanimously.

The Survey for the Wiggin Property is done. This is the property that we went to see during our site walk for the NHDES ARM grant. They are currently working on the Gagne Property.

This is the latest version of the conservation easement with all of the suggestions from Bart Mayer.

- The first page refers to the all of the parties involved and the actual acreage will be added in.
- The fifth paragraph states that if Bear Paw does not enforce the easement the State can come in and take that part over.
- Purposes of the easement are to protect and conserves the land; discusses the master plan recommendations;
- Use Limitations – basically you are allowed to do any that is not prohibited. The explicit limitations are listed in A. Also listed are the management activities, we require that they follow along that a plan accompany any trails being built or any other recreation uses that may involve disturbing the natural look. Section B you cannot subdivide. Section C no permanent structures. No display billboards etc. Would like G looked at for possible sentence change.
- Reserved Rights – Section B we would like to set a minimum of parking areas and feet of road. Section E checking to see if that should restrict public access not vehicles.
- Condemnation – We are still working on this section I am working on how the value of the property would be split up. This would be going with how the funds were given. In essence everyone would get their money back. I will work out the exact percentages.

Closing schedule Gagne, Wiggin, and Reading in September. Reading my get bumped due to environmental issues. Before the end of the year we would have the rest closed on. \$55,000 would be due from the Town on the final closing that would occur by December 31. The remaining fees would also be due to Bear Paw at the time of the final closing.

We met with the French's and we talked about the septic system that was on the Reading property that is no longer being used. The shack that we had talked to him about is being emptied and knocked down.

We did get \$65,000 to replace the culvert under Wiggin Road. Also we will have to do some work to the wetland adjacent to North Candia Road.

We have another LCHIP round coming up and we are trying to figure out what else we could do. There are about six privately owned parcels that would complete the Clay Pond project. We could use the Town owned parcels to contribute the town owned contribution. With the other conservation projects completed it makes the value of the land considerable less than what it once was. There is also another OSI round coming up. We could potentially do the project for \$550,000 and we might be able to raise some funds that would bring the cost down to about \$300,000. That is if we get the funding.

James Walter motioned to approve Bear Paw to see if the funding options are available for the Clay Pond II project David Ross seconded voted unanimously.

Commission Reports:

1. **Open Space Subcommittee –**
2. **Kiwanis Trails Initiative –**

Correspondence:

All correspondence was reviewed

Other:

1. **Invoices – n/a**

Non Public – RSA 91-A: 3, II, d

James Walter Motioned to enter into non-public Cindy Robertson seconded voted unanimously

James Walter motioned to exit non public Cindy Robertson seconded voted unanimously

Adjournment: James Walter motioned to adjourn at 9:45pm Cindy Robertson seconded voted unanimously