

**Hooksett Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
January 4, 2011**

Call Meeting to Order: 6:30pm

Attendance: Steve Couture vice-chair excused, Cindy Robertson member, Jim Walter member, John Turbyne member, Phil Fitanides alt-member, Dan Paradise Town Council Rep, Rob Duhaime Planning Board Rep, David Hess member

Public Input: none

Meeting Minutes: Jim Walter motioned to approve the minutes December 7, 2010, Phil Fitanides seconded by voted unanimously.

Appointments:

Kiwanis Trail Update – Jim Peroni, Kiwanis

John Peroni – I am here representing the Kiwanis trails committee. Kiwanis is involved in a lot of community projects in Hooksett. The trails committee is one of those community projects. I am here to update you on the trails and our hopes of moving forward. Heads Trail is one of the m trail. We have received grants for new surfacing which is stone dust that was laid down and then compacted by an asphalt paver. Kiwanis works on trail clean up twice a year.

Here are a few reasons that Kiwanis is working on these; encourages walking for the health benefit, working on the rails to trails projects, and we are also working with Manchester Moves which is hopefully going to be hub for all of the rails to trails projects.

It is nice to have work completed on our section and we of course are hopeful to continue. The hope and dream is to connect Pleasant Street to the Village via trails. One of the things when you look at Hooksett, is it has a great deal of natural land that is quite enjoyable. The idea is to get access so people can walk and be off the roadways. One of the main projects for rails to trails is to connect from Lebanon to Salem.

As you can see there are also rails with trails around the US. We mentioned to the Planning Board a few issues with getting from Pleasant Street to Grant Street with regards to a disputed right of on Bert Street. Cigna has shown an interest in these trails as well. But we do have a few challenges with that terrain. The long sought Heritage Trail along the river would also be another nice area. We would like to get access from Farmer Road to Manchester Water Works.

I attended a Trail round table discussion with Bear Paw and they wanted to get some trails out in the area of Clay Pond. One of the biggest things they talked about is planning before you start, what is your vision, funding, resources, and make sure you make these decisions before you begin. The major point that was made was making sure you plan and not just start. Another point that was brought up was having skilled people helping with every aspect of the trail process from design to build. It would

be interesting to know what your thoughts are on this entire thing. Would you be interested in creating trails?

Cindy Robertson – Yes we would be Steve Couture would be able to probably answer this better. We would be putting together a management plan for the Clay Pond Area and then look into creating some trails.

Phil Fitanides – In the parking areas of the trails who supplied those signs?

John Peroni – There is a kiosk at Heads Pond and that was completed by a Boy Scout for his eagle project.

Rob Duhaime – Manchester Sand is supposed to deed the Town the pond at the end of the Heads Pond Trail.

David Hess- The forest Society is doing a survey on trails on what exists and future goals. The other thing in Bow off of Woodhill Road the boy scouts put in a trail system up there. This trail system has little bridges and nice areas.

Mike Horne – I am interested in passive recreation. We need to put this information up on the website and make people aware that there is recreation in Hooksett and you do not need to go to mountains to hike. This is very important and Hooksett has a lot to offer.

Commission Reports:

1. **Open Space Subcommittee** – N/A

Correspondence:

All correspondence was reviewed

Other:

1. **Sidewalks** – Jim Walter motioned to approve letter regarding sidewalks to Town Council and Planning Board David Hess seconded voted unanimously
2. **Conservation Commission** – Jim Walter motioned to pay the annual dues of \$455 David Hess seconded voted unanimously

Non-public under RSA 91-A: 3, II, d

There was no non-public session

Adjournment –

Jim Walter motioned to adjourn meeting at 8:05 pm seconded by Dave Hess voted unanimously