

**Hooksett Conservation Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
October 2, 2012**

**Call Meeting to Order:** 6:15pm

**Attendance:** Cindy Robertson-vice-chair, Todd Lizotte-TC Rep, John Turbyne-alt member, Phil Fitanides-alt member, Jim Walter-member, Steve Couture chair, David Hess-member,

**Public Input:** n/a

**Meeting Minutes:** John Turbyne motioned to approve the minutes September 5, 2012, with changes Todd Lizotte seconded Jim Walter and Cindy Robertson abstained. Motion passed.

**Appointments:**

**Bear Paw – Dan Kern**

Quimby Mountain – My surveyor does not believe another parcel exists in that area and I have put together the property description. Once we decide that this is the actual parcel of land all we have to do is get it through the Governor & Council and Fish & Game. This is the only thing that is holding us up. I am hoping that by next meeting this will be all set to go. We will re-record the documents once all of this is approved with Fish & Game's signatures on them.

Reading Coop – We did get approved for the grant for \$66,500. At the Town Council meeting we will need to have council accept the money and sign the conservation easement. We need to do a few more clean up items and would like to get this on the November 14, 2012 agenda. Steve will have this added to the council agenda.

Barrett Property – Across from the Quimby Mountain parcel there is another parcel and the owners are proposing to donate a conservation easement on their property. There is about 17 acres total and 15 acres would be easement. It has some nice fields and the hope is to somehow connect it the Quimby Mountain easement. I am assuming if the town puts any money toward the project they will want an executor interest. But I am not sure how it works in Hooksett as some towns like this and some do not. I think what we would like you to do is come out to the property and take a look and see what you would like to do. Some towns do not require public access on donated easements.

**Restoration of Hackett Hill Sand Pit – Tax Map 17 Lot 7 – Peter Schauer, Schauer Environmental**

Peter Schauer – I am here to speak with you about the former gravel pit that consists of 67 acres of land and it has a prime wetland located on the site. Mr. Larrabee would like to come into the area and level the site. Pike has material that they want to give to Mr. Larrabee which would enable him to level the area. A wetland is drying up due to an old detention pond. This is now a 30,000ft area that gets water from the state. This area is not a wetland. We asked the state for a possible land swap to fill this area and give a 9 acre lot across the street and the state said no. The state recommended that

we come to you so discuss what types of mitigation projects you have going on that we could possibly make some agreements on.

Steve Couture – What is the amount of acreage you need to mitigate for?

Peter Schauer – The total is 9 acres and the fee would be \$115,000

Steve Couture – We have a project called the Merrimack Riverfront Project with restoration work that will be needed and some would actually fit in to your mitigation needs. What is the is your timing for permitting?

Peter Schauer – We are ready to go but we need to start the permitting process as we have not done that as of yet. One thing they did say is that fee may not fit the project as this was man made and not a wetland. So the \$115,000 may not be actually mitigation amount.

Jeff Larrabee – I want to level it out and restore the wetland to what it used to be so I can preserve them and reenergize them.

Steve Couture – The consensus is we want to work with you and we have a project ready to go.

#### **Prioritization of the Trail System –**

Phil Fitanides – I spoke with the troop leader for Boy Scouts 292 about the possibility of an Eagle Scout project for building trails.

Steve Couture – Suggested inviting the Boy Scouts to our next meeting.

Jim Walter motioned to approve the prioritization as follows Pinnacle 2012-2013; Merrimack Riverfront Project 2013-2015; Quimby Mountain; Clay Pond Cindy Robertson seconded voted unanimously.

John Turbyne – Suggested deciding where we want the trails to be and start planning.

Todd Lizotte – Maybe we should have a sub-committee for the trails and possible have it GIS'd this way we could just bring it up and plot them on a map. We could either do this in the community development department on the Arc system or possible send it out to SNHPC. I will talk with Harold about some GIS of the areas. I would like to start with data collection or SOP.

Steve Couture – Maybe this could be a project for some college/graduate students could do for us. I will look into this.

#### **Commission Reports:**

- 1. Pinnacle Park** – Council approved to assist the Elhers' with their privacy concerns. The DPW has also installed the fire gate, began work on the trails and signs. Discussion ensued regarding the rules for the signage. James Walter motioned to remove "Absolutely" from alcohol rule; remove no profane language; and change no kindling to no fires Cindy Robertson seconded Todd Lizotte voted no; motioned passed. Jim Walter amended his motion

to add all changes as discussed seconded by Cindy Robertson; Todd Lizotte voted no; motion passed

2. **Merrimack Riverfront Project – David Hess** -I am having trouble contacting the abutter to this property and we may have to take a harder line. I am still working on another area in question and will continue to work on that situation as well. We are also applying for the Davis Conservation Foundation Grant. We did not receive any funding from NHCF or the Cogswell Trust. Lions Club, Robies Store, Heritage Commission, Historical Society will all be sending out invites for the presentation on Oct 30<sup>th</sup>.

Cindy Robertson – Please ask Heather to put on the Library website.

Steve Couture – Oct 18 I will be doing a site walk on the property if anyone is interested

3. **Clay Pond II – n/a**

#### **Correspondence:**

All correspondence was reviewed

#### **Other:**

1. **CIP Request** – This has been submitted and we will wait to see
2. **Approval of Secretary's Weekly Timesheet-** David Hess motioned to have the Steve Couture approve the secretary's weekly timesheet seconded by Jim Walter voted unanimously
3. **Budget-** Jim Walter motioned to approve the budget at \$11,635 with an increase of \$1,194 Cindy Robertson seconded. Voted unanimously
4. **Invoices** – VHB invoice \$2175 David Hess motioned to pay invoice out of the current use fund Cindy Robertson seconded. Voted unanimously.

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

Jim Walter motioned to enter into non-public session seconded by Steve Couture voted unanimously

Steve Couture motioned to exit non-public session Jim Walter seconded voted unanimously

**Adjournment** –Jim Walter motioned to adjourn meeting at 8:11 pm Cindy Robertson seconded voted unanimously