

Jaffrey Conservation Commission Minutes December 1, 2010

In attendance: Michael George, Chairman

James Bearce

Carolyn Garretson

William Graf

Patricia Weiner

Ron Rogstead, Alternate

Kathy Batchelder, Selectboard Representative

Absent: Nora Barton Bryant

I. The meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM. Pat Weiner was appointed scribe for the meeting.

II. Old Business

A. B. Graf spoke to Emily Hague regarding the printing of maps for Children's Woods. The maps would contain historical comments on the back. **ACTION:** B. Graf and J. Bearce will walk the Children's Woods trails with Emily to finalize this project. Those present unanimously approved use of Children's Woods funds for this purpose. The Birdhouse project will be put off until the Spring possibly for Cheshire Pond instead.

B. M. George reported about his attendance at the recent Forest Law Workshop. Some topics covered were timber harvest and wetlands. Literature is available to us.

C. M. George advised that he attended the ZBA meeting that included the variance requested for additional construction at 558 Dublin Rd. After his examination of the property, he felt that the area involved did not affect a wetlands area.

D. J. Bearce reported that the Cheshire County Registry suggested that we search its database by using key words such as Monadnock Conservancy and other likely easement - holding entities for easement listings. There is currently no process to list the easements within Jaffrey. **ACTION:** C. Garretson will call Betsy Harris to help clarify this matter.

E. Member specialization assignments were discussed. The following assignments were tentatively assigned:

Wetlands - Graf/ Garretson

Shoreland Protection - Rogstead

Forestry/ Timber - George/Bearce

Invasive Species - Garretson/Bryant

Education (about Con Com) - Weiner/Bryant

Trails and Lands - Bearce

Open Space - George

Additional discussion was held re: the Education area. This would, among other things, include educating the townspeople about the role and purpose of the Conservation

Commission, coordination with the Planning Board and Zoning Board, arranging for speakers, organizing a conservation roundtable.

F. J. Bearce has advised the Town (Sue Richards and Erline Lemire) that Michael George is the new Conservation Commission Chairman. The Town office key was given to M. George.

G. K. Batchelder advised that the Con Com minutes should be placed on the Town bulletin board, if need be in draft form in order to post timely. M. Kresge has advised that he will only post the final draft on the Town website.

III. New Business

A. K. Batchelder clarified Selectboard concerns about the proposed Open Space Committee. Currently the Selectboard is in the process of reaching out to nearby town Open Space Committees to understand better how they started, etc...She suggested that the Con Com call Don MacIsaac with a request to attend the Selectboard meeting on Dec. 13 to clarify certain items.

B. Carl and Scott Hagstrom presented plans for a pond to be created at a residence on Warfield Drive. A minimum impact permit application has been filed. It was reported that there are no endangered species, no vernal pools involved, etc. The area is currently lawn.

C. Meeting agenda format was discussed. It was agreed that meetings should be focused on clear action items. They should also include committee input from Selectboard, PB and ZBA re: important issues.

It was also agreed that the Treasurer's report be given only if there are significant changes from the previous meeting.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved. In the future the approval of the minutes will be placed at the beginning of the meeting.

D. The interview requested by The Transcript Ledger will be postponed until February as the Conservation Commission is in the process of simplifying and/or refining activities and processes.

E. M. George reviewed the suggested google group.com procedures that could further organize Con Com calendars, correspondence, minutes, etc.....**ACTION:** M. George will send each member written directions.

F. Possible topics and speakers were discussed for future meetings or Con Com sponsored Town gatherings.

G. A winter social gathering of Con Com members will be held at the home of P. Weiner at 7PM, Jan. 12, 2010.

The next regular meeting of the Jaffrey Conservation Commission will be held Jan. 26, 2010, 7PM at the Town offices. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted
Patricia Weiner