

## **New Boston Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes**

March 3, 2011

**In Attendance:** Burr Tupper, Barbara Thomson, Laura Bernard, Mark Brown, Mike Depetrillo, Joel Bedard, Rick Searle

**Minutes:** January Meeting Minutes Approved with Changes

**Treasurers Report:** Not Available

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Master Plan** – Burr spoke with Nic Strong, Planning Coordinator, and was informed that the Master Plan update has been deferred until 2012.

**Brochure** – Burr brought in a copy of the New Ipswich CC brochure for everyone to see. All the stewards need to get their overview write-ups done and sent to the membership ASAP. Laura posted Burr's "Saunders Pasture Brochure Write-up" on the CC internal website.

**New Boston Bulletin** – at last month's meeting, it was decided the CC should try and have an article in the NB Bulletin monthly. Burr will be putting something together from an article about wetlands. It was also discussed that an article on the Rail Trail could be written for publication – Mark volunteered to work on the Rail Trail history, while Burr said he'd work with Rick on the present day info.

**Eastern Brooktrout Project** – Burr will ask Barry Wicklow if he could come to our next meeting to present the 2011 plans for the project and identify the funding they are looking for from the Conservation Commission. It was also discussed that we'd like to have Paul Doscher come to New Boston in the fall to do a presentation (maybe at the library), open to the town, which would provide us with the 2 year project accomplishments. Joel volunteered to meet with Barry Wicklow late in the summer to help with the fall presentation.

**Lorden Property** – Burr said that according to a letter from the town lawyer to Nic Strong, the PLC will own the Open Space land in the cluster subdivision.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Betsey Dodge donations** – Arlene Dodge called Burr and asked what the CC planned for the donations we've received in Betsey's name. She wondered if some of the money could be used to help 6<sup>th</sup> graders attend Camp Sergeant. It was decided that a committee to include Mark, Joel, Arlene and Cyndie Wilson would meet to develop a plan.

**Dollars & Sense** – Barbara is working to get the Dollars & Sense presentation to New Boston. If she can arrange this for next month, we could advertise this in the Bulletin.

**Rail Trail Updates** – Burr shared some ideas about upgrade opportunities for the Rail Trail. This may involve hiring a resource to do some selective cutting to open the trail and possibly laying some stone dust to make the trail handicap accessible. Mike and Rick agreed to work with Burr to develop a plan to bring to the CC for consideration.

**CC Project Tracking Spreadsheet** – Laura will build the framework for tracking CC projects. She will send to the membership for comments and updates.

**5-Year Management Plans** – It was decided that in order to be able to track progress and access the need for volunteers, we need the Stewards to develop a brief (1-2 page), 5-year management plan for each of the properties the CC oversees.

**Signs** – We are still short one sign for the Lyndeborough Road property and are waiting on quotes for fixing two other signs. Laura will call Herget/Hayse again.

**Informational/Educational Meeting** – Barbara suggested that we hold a meeting with the Town Attorney, Selectmen, Planning Board and the Fire Wards to provide information regarding the CC role and responsibility. In preparation, Burr and Barbara will work together to write up a Conservation Commission Primer that could be widely used.

**Maps/Master Plan** – we need to work with the SNHPC to update the maps missing in the Master Plan (but available elsewhere on the town web site), including adding the SNHPC co-occurrence model maps.

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully Submitted, Laura Bernard