Draft Minutes

New Durham Conservation Commission July 27, 2010

Chair Cathy Allyn called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Roll Call: Cathy Allyn (Chair), Charlie Berube (Vice-Chair), Bob Craycraft (Alternate), Bill Malay, Terry Jarvis (Selectmen's Representative), Paddy McHale.

Others Present:

Minutes of June 29: Paddy McHale moved to accept the minutes of June 29 as presented. Bob Craycraft seconded. Approved unanimously with no abstentions.

Applications: David Allen reported that there were no pending applications.

Natural Resource Inventory: Bob Craycraft updated the Commission on the grant for doing the Natural Resource Inventory. The town has been awarded a grant. The Commission needs to choose a vendor to do the work. Bob Craycraft share information that the potential vendors had submitted regarding their areas of expertise. Paddy McHale moved to select FB Environmental Services as the vendor for the Town's Natural Resource Inventory. Bill Malay seconded. Approved unanimously with no abstentions. Bob Craycraft will inform Rachael Roulard of the Piscataqua Region Estuaries Project.

Amendments to Town Shoreland Protection Ordinance: Commission members discussed the possibility of asking the Planning Board to propose amendments to the Town's shore Front Protection Ordinance that would incorporate some or all of the state CSPA law into town ordinance. That would give the Town the authority to enforce the law in the town which is hard for the state to do because it has so little staff. Commission members agreed that it would be better to select those issues that have been the biggest concern in Town and add only those items to the Town Ordinance. David Allen asked members to return to the August meeting with their list of the items of greatest concern. Members suggested that licensing of contractors to work in town or providing tax incentives to property owners were additional methods of improving compliance.

Shirley Forest: Peter Farrell will be contracted by the Board of Selectmen to develop a harvest plan for the Shirley Forest.

Moose Mountain Contract: The Commission discussed entering in to a contract with MMRG (Moose Mountain Regional Greenways) for technical assistance in creating Conservation Easements.

Conservation Commission Goals: Cathy Allyn reported that she had shared the Commission's annual goals with the Board of Selectmen, and had emphasized the Commission's concern with the negative impact of so many ATVs and Off Road Vehicles in the Devil's Den area of town.

Commission members agreed that it could be helpful to meet with a representative of the ATV club. Bill Malay said he thought there was one location that was being particularly badly impacted: a low area and pond near the bottom of steep slopes coming off of both Mt. Molly and Devil's Den Hill.

Conservation Commission Display Board: The Commission discussed having a table at the Meetinghouse Rally Day. Cathy Allyn agreed to staff the table for part of the day.

Charlie Berube moved to adjourn at 9:30 PM. Paddy McHale seconded. Approved unanimously with no abstentions.

Respectfully submitted,

David Allen Land Use Administrative Assistant