

# Draft Minutes

## New Durham Conservation Commission

### March 27, 2012

*(Please note: These are draft minutes prepared by staff from notes taken at the meeting. They have not been reviewed by the Board for accuracy, and should not be relied upon for accuracy. Reviewed, corrected, and approved minutes will be available at Town Hall and on the Town's website following the next scheduled Board meeting.)*

Vice-Chair Charlie Berube called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. He asked alternate Craycraft to sit for Ron Gehl.

**Roll Call:** Charlie Berube (Vice-Chair), Bill Malay, Paddy McHale, Bob Craycraft (Alternate)

**Excused Absence:** Cathy Allyn, Ron Gehl

**Patrick Shoreland:** Bill Malay recused himself from this issue as an abutter. Sean Hillsgrove, contractor, spoke on behalf of the applicant, Elise Patrick, 39 North Shore Road. He explained that an area of the lot had started washing out during Hurricane Irene. Since then it has continued to erode, aided by some runoff from an abutter's property. He wants to build a retaining wall using lengths of timber backfilled with sand and soil and plant vegetation.

The Commission asked clarifying questions.

**Paddy McHale moved to recommend to DES that they approve the Shoreland Application of Elise Patrick. Bob Craycraft seconded. Approved 3-0.**

**Review of Permits Granted:** The Commission reviewed two recently granted permits :

1. Permit to NH Fish & Game is also State Discharge Permit
2. Complete Forestry Notification by Jeffrey Foster, 358 Old Bay Road

Charlie Berube said he felt the Commission should follow up on the Foster permit to ensure that the cutting is done within the rules. Bill Malay asked if the Town Forester was doing followup. David Allen said he did not know but would check it out. Paddy McHale suggested the commission meet with the Town Forester. Mr. Allen said he would try to arrange that.

**Con Comm Mailing:** The Commission discussed plans for a Conservation Commission educational mailing to Lake Residents in May. David Allen shared the NHDES pamphlet on simple Stormwater Management BMPs for property owners. Charlie Berube said it would be helpful to add a page with some lake protection tips regarding other issues than stormwater management. The Commission discussed the process for doing the mailing with staff. Bill Malay mentioned that Cathy Allyn had offered to write a cover letter as a way of increasing the visibility of the Commission.

**Master Plan:** The Commission discussed their participation in the Master Planning process. All agreed that the Natural Resource Inventory just completed should be the source for their input. David Allen asked about recommended specific parts of town for protection. He suggested that another form of protection would be to have significantly larger lot size requirements in important areas of town. Given the shortage of funds this might be a more likely way to achieve some of the commissions goals.

**250<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party:** The Commission discussed their participation in the 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration at the end of July. Members were eager to have a visible presence. Both Paddy McHale and Bill Malay offered to help staff a booth.

David Allen suggested using some of the Natural Resource Inventory maps as a basis for citizens to put stickers on those parts of town they felt it most important to protect. Members strongly agreed. He also suggesting trying to start a "Friends of New Durham Conservation" group that could take on some activities to help protect the town.

Paddy McHale wondered what those activities might be, and what the attraction would be for people to join. He felt that "friends" would not want to be involved in enforcement of permits. He suggested it was important for the Commission to be clear what it thought the purpose and role of the group would be. He said one benefit could be a quarterly newsletter. Who would produce it? He added the possibility of sponsoring walks on town Conservation properties as Strafford Rivers Conservancy does.

---

*(Please note: These are draft minutes prepared by staff from notes taken at the meeting. They have not been reviewed by the Board for accuracy, and should not be relied upon for accuracy. Reviewed, corrected, and approved minutes will be available at Town Hall and on the Town's website following the next scheduled Board meeting.)*

C:\Documents And Settings\David\My Documents\5. Operations\5.1.4. Board Meetings\5.1.4.2.Conservation Commission\2012\Cc.2012.0327.Dmin.Doc

Date

Page 2 of 3

Bob Craycraft mentioned there is a Friends of newfound Lake group but it is not very comparable, partly because there are several towns that border on the lake.

**Update on Conservation Activities:** Bill Malay updated the group on the status of efforts to protect the Hammond property. They are focusing on a federal wetlands reserve program grant.

The Commission adjourned at 9:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

David Allen  
Land Use Administrative Assistant

Draft!

---

*(Please note: These are draft minutes prepared by staff from notes taken at the meeting. They have not been reviewed by the Board for accuracy, and should not be relied upon for accuracy. Reviewed, corrected, and approved minutes will be available at Town Hall and on the Town's website following the next scheduled Board meeting.)*

C:\Documents And Settings\David\My Documents\5. Operations\5.1.4. Board Meetings\5.1.4.2.Conservation Commission\2012\Cc.2012.0327.Dmin.Doc

Date