

# CONSERVATION COMMISSION

## MINUTES

**26 FEBRUARY 2013**

**PRESENT:** Commission members Chair Paddy McHale, Charlie Berube, Bob Craycraft (alternate member), Recording Secretary Amy Smith.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Kari Lygren of Moose Mountain Regional Greenways.

Chair McHale called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

Commission members reviewed the minutes of 25 September 2012. Mr. Berube made a motion to approve the minutes of 25 September 2012 as printed. Mr. Craycraft seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Commission members decided to hold off on the approval of the 29 January 2013 minutes as there were not enough members present to approve them.

Ms. Lygren informed the Commission that Moose Mountain Regional Greenways was now a land trust and could start holding easements. Ms. Lygren stated MMRG would like to do more things in New Durham. One of the things the group is working on is a seminar for land owners discussing the benefits of putting their land in conservation easements. Ms. Lygren stated they had originally targeted this event for March but decided on July instead as the seasonal residents would also be here. Ms. Lygren continued to state she has booked the Library on July 25, 2013 from 7 – 9 pm. She noted Atty. Kathryn Williams, an estate planner in Epping, and Keith Fletcher MMRG's Director of Land Conservation will be speaking. Ms. Lygren stated MMRG would like to target land owners and give them a personal invitation. Ms. Lygren noted MMRG would do all the public relations. Mr. Berube thought there may be a list of large property owners who could be targeted. Mr. Craycraft suggested using the Community Room at the Fire Station as it could accommodate more people. Chair McHale agreed. Mr. Berube felt the Library was a better physical location as it had more exposure and they could advertise on their sign. Ms. Lygren stated she would check into the Community Room and see if the Library Director would allow MMRG to advertise the event on their sign even if it is held at the Community Room. Ms. Lygren asked if the Commission would help with the mailing costs. Chair McHale stated he would look into it but he is not sure what the Commission's budget is. Chair McHale stated the Commission could definitely help with posting signs around Town.

Ms. Lygren stated she spoke with the Farmington Conservation Commission and a joint meeting with all 7 Town's that fall in MMRG's jurisdiction was suggested. Ms. Lygren stated they would like to sponsor guest speaker LaMarr Clannon, who would give a 1 –1 ½ hour presentation and then have a ½ hour of questions and answers. The cost would be \$50.00 per Town and right now she is looking at the month of June . Ms. Lygren asked if any particular weekday was better than any other. Mr. Craycraft stated Mondays and Tuesdays are usually meeting nights for Towns. Ms. Lygren asked how the Commission thought the Planning Board and Selectmen would react. Chair McHale stated he would like to get the support of the Boards but doesn't believe it is necessary.

Ms. Lygren suggested having a social event in the Fall and having the various Conservation Commissions get together and brainstorm. Discuss what works in their Town, what doesn't, how to attract more members, etc. in a relaxed atmosphere. Chair McHale suggested if it is done early enough in the Fall, it could be held outside.

Ms. Lygren stated the last thing she wanted to discuss was a guided kayaking event on Merrymeeting Marsh. Ms. Lygren stated MMRG hosts the Branch River paddle in Milton, which they cut off at 70 people, and usually have a waiting list. Ms. Lygren stated they have a suggested donation of \$15.00 and also look for sponsors. Ms. Lygren noted sponsors have their names on all the fliers, the press release, and is visible on the day of the event. Commission members felt this was a good idea. Discussion followed as to where the kayaks would put in, the route, etc. There was also a suggestion of contacting Johnson's Restaurant to see if they could make an arrangement for food and usage of their parking area. Chair McHale suggested doing 2 trips in the same day if time permits and there is a large enough turnout. Ms. Lygren thanked the Commission for their time.

#### **Shoreland Permit Applications:**

**Kevin & Deborah Carter, 113 North Shore Road Map 108 Lot 54:** to stop erosion, expand porch and expand foundation under the existing footprint of the house within 250 feet of the Lake.

**James & Louise Barwell, 47 Meaders Point Road Map 111 Lot 24:** to tear down an existing cottage and build a 2 bedroom house, a new septic system, new garage and installing a new well within 250' of the Lake.

Commission members reviewed the 2 applications and their State approvals, as both had already been approved by the State. Commission members discussed how they could get the information in a more timely manner. Ms. Smith stated she could e-mail Commission members

when they receive an application to let them know one has come in. Mr. Berube requested e-mails go to both his home and work e-mail address. Commission members asked Ms. Smith to contact the Code Enforcement Officer and ask him to follow up on the Barwell and Carter properties to see if what has been approved is actually what is on the property.

Chair McHale asked Commission members how many copies of applications they felt were necessary in order for them to be able to properly review the applications but not create any unnecessary waste. Commission members felt the original plus 3 copies.

Commission members reviewed the mail. Chair McHale asked Ms. Smith if she could store the mail in a central location in the Land Use Office and as most of it is timely, dispose of it after a year.

Chair McHale mentioned Commission member Cathy Allyn's e-mail suggesting members RSVP so other members and the secretary will know who will and who will not be able to attend a meeting.

Chair McHale noted the next Commission meeting is 26 March 2013.

At 8:37 pm Mr. Craycraft made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Berube seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Smith

Recording Secretary