

**MINUTES  
NEW DURHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
24 JUNE 2014**

**Present:** Commission members Ron Gehl (Vice-Chair), Charlie Berube, Bob Craycraft (Alternate), Bill Malay (Alternate), Recording Secretary Amy Smith.

**Others Present:** Virginia Long of Moose Mountain Regional Greenways, Rod & Judy Thompson.

Acting Chair Gehl called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm and designated Mr. Malay and Mr. Craycraft to sit in as voting members.

**Public Hearing - Thompson Conservation Easement - Map 269 Lot 007**

Acting Chair Gehl opened the public hearing regarding the acquisition of a secondary executory interest in the Thompson Conservation Easement and the expenditure of \$5,000 from the Conservation Fund to Moose Mountain Regional Greenways (the primary easement holder) to facilitate the completion of the easement.

Acting Chair Gehl opened the public hearing to public comment. Virginia Long of Moose Mountain Regional Greenways (MMRG) read an e-mail from Don and Gail Holm supporting the conservation easement and applauding the New Durham Conservation Commission for the efforts in facilitating the easement. Ms. Long stated MMRG is delighted to have the opportunity to be the primary interest holder in the conservation easement of such a beautiful piece of property. Ms. Long stated she wished to thank the Thompsons, the Towns of Farmington and New Durham and the public for their support in conserving the property for future generations. Acting Chair Gehl asked if there was any other public comment. There was none. Acting Chair Gehl closed the public input portion of the hearing.

Commission members reviewed the draft Conservation Easement Deed submitted by MMRG's Attorney. Acting Chair Gehl stated the document was submitted to Town Attorney Justin Richardson for his review. Acting Chair Gehl read an e-mail from Atty. Richardson listing his recommendations to make the document stronger and close loop holes. Vice-Chair Gehl asked Ms. Long if Farmington's legal counsel had reviewed the document. Ms. Long stated she did not believe the Farmington Attorney had commented on the document yet but she would need to double check with Keith Fletcher (also of MMRG). Commission members felt that though the comments were substantive they were not major.

Acting Chair Gehl suggested the Commission rescind the previous votes regarding the donation of \$5,000 to MMRG for future stewardship costs of the easement.

**Mr. Craycraft made a motion the Commission rescind their votes of 24 September 2013 and 25 March 2014 which outline a previous commitment toward stewardship costs of the Thompson Easement. Mr. Malay seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

**Mr. Berube made a motion the New Durham Conservation Commission recommend to the New Durham Board of Selectmen the acquisition of a secondary executory interest in the Thompson Conservation Easement, Map 269 Lot 007, and the expenditure of \$5,000 from the Conservation Fund to Moose Mountain Regional Greenways, the primary easement holder, to facilitate the completion of the Thompson Conservation Easement. Mr. Malay seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

Mr. Thompson stated he is willing to do a site walk of the property with the Selectmen if they are interested.

**Mr. Craycraft made a motion to recess the public hearing regarding the acquisition of a secondary executory interest in the Thompson Conservation Easement and the expenditure of \$5,000 from the Conservation Fund to Moose Mountain Regional Greenways (the primary easement holder) to facilitate the completion of the easement for Map 269 Lot 007 until 29 July 2014 at 7 pm at the Town Hall. Mr. Malay seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

#### **Review of Wetlands Permit Applications**

Commission members reviewed the **Groppo** (Map 122 Lot 17) and **Bassett** (Map 116 Lot 004) applications but due to several meetings that lacked a quorum, both were beyond the 30 day time from the Conservation Commission has to comment to the State.

Commission members reviewed the **Barwell** application (Map 111 Lot 024). All was found to be in order. **Mr. Malay made a motion stating the Commission has reviewed the Wetlands Permit application for James Barwell, Map 111 Lot 024, 47 Meaders Point Road, and the Commission has no objections. Mr. Craycraft seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

#### **Review of Minutes**

Commission members reviewed the minutes of 25 March 2014. **Mr. Craycraft made a motion to approve the minutes of 25 March 2014 as printed. Mr. Berube seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

Commission members reviewed the minutes of 3 June 2014. Mr. Malay suggested on Page 1, first paragraph under the heading "Thompson Easement", 8<sup>th</sup> line down, inserting the word "that" between the words 'state' and 'the'. **Mr. Craycraft made a motion to approve the minutes of 3 June 2014 as amended. Mr. Berube seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

#### **Review of Mail**

Commission members reviewed several pieces of mail including a Permit by Notification (**DeMichaelis**) and two Shoreland Permit applications (**Nadeau and Anderson**). Mr. Craycraft noted both the Andersons and Mr. Nadeau currently have conditional use permit applications before the Planning Board and have hearings scheduled for 1 July 2014.

### **Talent Bank Application**

Commission members reviewed the talent bank application of Curtis Richard who is interested in serving as a Commission member. Acting Chair Gehl noted Mr. Richard was in attendance at the 3 June 2014 Commission meeting and felt he would make a good addition. Mr. Malay stated he also met Mr. Richard and agreed. **Mr. Craycraft made a motion the Conservation Commission recommend the Board of Selectmen appoint Curtis Richard as a full Conservation Commission member. Mr. Malay seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.** Acting Chair Gehl asked Ms. Smith to send a memo to the Board of Selectmen.

### **Election of Officers**

**Mr. Malay made a motion to elect Ron Gehl as Chair. Mr. Craycraft seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

**Mr. Malay made a motion to elect Charlie Berube as Vice-Chair. Mr. Gehl seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

**At 9:12 pm Mr. Craycraft made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Malay seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Smith  
Recording Secretary