

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
25 AUGUST 2015**

Present: Commission members Ron Gehl (Chair), Curtis Richard, Bob Craycraft (Alternate), Bill Malay (Alternate), Recording Secretary Amy Smith.

Excused: Charlie Berube

Others Present: Videographer Corky Mork, Paul Raslavicus, David Bickford

At 7:10 pm Chair Gehl called the meeting to order and designated Mr. Craycraft and Mr. Malay to sit in as voting members.

Shoreland Permit Application - Jane Corcoran - Map 114 Lot 35 - 390 South Shore Rd

Chair Gehl noted the Commission has no statutory authority to review Shoreland Permit Applications but they do review them to make sure the project is not violating Town regulations. Commission members reviewed the Shoreland Permit Application for Jane Corcoran for property located at 390 South Shore Rd, Map 114 Lot 35. Ms. Smith noted the project has been before both the Planning Board for a conditional use permit and the Zoning Board for two setback variances. Ms. Smith noted the variances have been approved and the conditional use permit has been conditionally approved contingent upon the receipt of a State approved septic approval and Shoreland Permit. Audience member Paul Raslavicus stated it is his opinion that the ZBA should have acted on three different variances and not just two when they allowed approval of the construction of the house. Brief discussion followed. Chair Gehl noted variances are not the realm of the Conservation Commission but the ZBA, however, it was noted that vigilance regarding land disturbance is required. The Shoreland Permit application was found to be in order.

Town Owned/Tax Deeded Property - Map 250 Lot 111 - Birch Hill Road

Ms. Smith stated at the Planning Board meeting of 18 August 2015 Selectman Anthes asked for the opinion of the Planning Board, and indicated the Selectman also wanted the opinion of the Conservation Commission, regarding the sale of Map 250 Lot 111. Ms Smith read the draft Planning Board minutes from the 18 August 2015 meeting. The property in question is a .40 acre parcel of land with an existing trailer and small shed on it which was taken for taxes in 2013. The Town was contacted by someone who was interested in purchasing the property and the Selectmen wanted to get the opinion of the Planning Board and Conservation Commission on whether they had any objections to the sale of this particular lot. It is understood that whatever legal process that is necessary in the sale of the lot will be followed. Commission members reviewed the lot in question on the tax map. Chair Gehl stated due to the small size of the lot and the fact it is already built upon it does not have a lot of conservation value. Commission members agreed. Using the lot as a playground or community garden was discussed. Chair Gehl noted it is certainly within the purview of the Selectmen to retain the lot and use it as a playground or community garden.

Review of Minutes

Commission members reviewed the minutes of 30 June 2015.

Mr. Craycraft made a motion to approve the minutes of 30 June 2015 as printed. Mr. Richard seconded the motion. The motion was approved with (three affirmative votes Craycraft, Gehl, Richard) and one abstention (Malay).

Review of Mail

Board members reviewed the mail.

Ridgeline/Skyline Protection Area

Mr. Raslavicus stated while he was a Planning Board member he worked on a Ridgeline/Skyline Protection area regulation. Mr. Raslavicus stated Planning Board members felt it was too restrictive as it encompassed the entire Town and felt it would be better if it were limited to the Merrymeeting Lake watershed area. Mr. Raslavicus stated he reworked his proposal and wanted to submit it to the Conservation Commission for their review. Commission members thanked Mr. Raslavicus. Chair Gehl asked Ms. Smith to put Ridgeline/Skyline Protection area on the agenda for the September meeting.

At 8:20 pm Chair Gehl made a motion to enter into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 (d) consideration of the acquisition, sale, or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to the general community. Mr. Craycraft seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Craycraft – Aye; Gehl – Aye; Malay- Aye; Richard – Aye.

Mr. Bickford and Mr. Raslavicus left. Commission members delayed discussion for approximately 10 minutes as Videographer Corky Mork packed up the recording equipment.

At 9:00 pm Chair Gehl made a motion to exit non-public session. Mr. Craycraft seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

While in non-public session a potential conservation easement was discussed. No motions were made.

At 9:01 pm Mr. Craycraft made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Malay seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Smith
Recording Secretary