

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES  
29 SEPTEMBER 2015**

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

**Excused:** Curtis Richard

**Others Present:** Videographer Brian Nelson

At 7:07 pm Chair Gehl called the meeting to order and designated Mr. Craycraft and Mr. Malay to sit in as voting members.

**Holm Monitoring Report**

Mr. Malay stated he plans on visiting the Holm's property in late October, after the leaves drop, in order to do the monitoring report. Mr. Malay stated he will coordinate the visit with Mr. Richard and let other Commission members know as well in case they wish to attend. Mr. Malay asked Ms. Smith if she received monitoring reports for the Thompson and Woodward properties. Ms. Smith stated she received the monitoring report for the Woodward property in late 2014 or early 2015. Mr. Malay asked for a copy of the report. Ms. Smith stated she has not received a monitoring report for the Thompson property. Chair Gehl stated the Thompson monitoring report is forthcoming.

**2016 Budget**

Commission members reviewed their year to date expenditures for 2015 and discussed their 2016 budget. Commission members agreed to increase the "Dues/Fees" line by \$51.00 as a result of an increase in membership cost to the NH Association of Conservation Commissions. Commission members decreased the "Postage" line by \$40.00. Ms. Smith read the budget figures.

Merrymeeting Lake Association Water Quality Testing - \$775

Printing - \$150

Dues/Fees - \$496

Meetings/Conferences - \$240

Postage - \$100

Mileage- \$100

**Mr. Craycraft made a motion the Conservation Commission approve the 2016 budget as discussed. Mr. Malay seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

**Permit by Notification - Lonergan- Map 112 Lot 011 -250 South Shore Road**

Commission members reviewed a Permit by Notification application for Edward & Judith Lonergan for property located at 250 South Shore Road, Map 112 Lot 011. The application is to allow for the repair of an existing retaining wall. Commission members had no objection to the

application.

**Permit by Notification - Spohn - Map 114 Lot 044 - 399 South Shore Road**

Commission members reviewed a Permit by Notification application for Peter & Karen Spohn for property located at 399 South Shore Road, Map 114 Lot 044. The application is to allow a boat lift in an existing boat slip along an existing seasonal dock. Commission members had no objection to the application.

**Wetlands Permit - Bouvier - Map 112 Lot 010 - 248 South Shore Road**

Commission members reviewed a Wetlands Permit application for Leslie Bouvier for property located at 248 South Shore Road, Map 112 Lot 010. The application is to replace a deteriorated retaining wall, remove old steps and install new steps. Commission members had no objection to the application.

**Review of Minutes**

Commission members reviewed the minutes of 25 August 2015.

Mr. Malay stated he remembers either Mr. Craycraft or Chair Gehl noting the importance of monitoring land disturbance when discussing the Corcoran Shoreland Permit application. Chair Gehl suggested on page 1, last sentence of the paragraph entitled ‘Shoreland Permit Application - Jane Corcoran’, adding “, however, it was noted that vigilance regarding land disturbance is required”.

**Mr. Craycraft made a motion to approve the minutes of 25 August 2015 as amended. Mr. Malay seconded the motion. The motion was approved with three affirmative votes (Craycraft, Gehl, Malay) and one abstention (Berube).**

**Review of Mail**

Commission members reviewed the mail.

**Ridge/Skyline Protection**

Chair Gehl stated at the 25 August 2015 meeting Paul Raslavicus submitted a draft version of a Ridge/Skyline protection regulation for the Commission to review. Chair Gehl noted the drafting of Ordinances is not the realm of the Conservation Commission. Mr. Malay stated he thought the draft was well done. Chair Gehl stated since the regulation was not applied to the entire Town it may bring legal challenges. Chair Gehl also stated the Commission has no statutory role in the drafting of ordinances and is not in the position to promote the draft as a Commission. Chair Gehl stated members could certainly promote the regulation as individuals.

**Dock/Mooring Issues**

Mr. Malay expressed concern regarding a dock in a right of way that was approved by Department of Environmental Services (DES). Chair Gehl asked when the dock was approved. Mr. Malay stated about five years ago. Mr. Malay also noted issues with some other docks and

questioned what could be done. Mr. Berube stated people who notice violations can write a letter to DES requesting enforcement of dock violations.

Mr. Malay noted there is no State approval process for moorings and people can put them pretty much anywhere. Mr. Berube noted Marine Patrol can have a mooring removed if it is deemed a hazard to navigation. Mr. Malay asked if there is anything that can be done on a Town level regarding moorings. Chair Gehl stated no as Merrymeeting Lake is under the jurisdiction of the State of New Hampshire not the Town.

#### **Moose Mountain Regional Greenways Update**

Chair Gehl stated the LCHIP grant application submitted by MMRG for regional conservation planning assistance has gone through the initial interview process and he believes it went well.

**At 8:21 pm Mr. Berube made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Malay seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Smith  
Recording Secretary