

NORTH HAMPTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

September 13, 2005

1) ROLL CALL

Present when the meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. was Chris Ganotis and Chuck Gordon, Co-Chairmen, Stan Knowles, and Shirley Carter.

2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES - August 9, 2005

Tabled until next meeting.

3) TREASURER'S REPORT

Tabled until next meeting.

4) OLD BUSINESS

Greystone Village Conservation Easements

Attorney John Allen, representative Ed Huminick and Wetlands Scientist Mark West appeared before the Commission to explain the easement deeds for the subject development. Mr. Huminick confirmed that the conservation easement deeds are one of several approval conditions required by the Planning Board. Mark West explained the topography, habitat and drainage proposal for each easement. He indicated that the two smaller easements (which are existing marsh areas) would serve as detention treatments and drain into the larger land easement. This larger section contains both uplands and the buffer, which will protect the abutting wetlands and keep the drainage on site.

Commission members questioned the future responsibility and oversight of the proper functioning of the wetlands. Mr. Huminick indicated that a certified property manager would be responsible for this. Members discussed the lack of commission staff and municipal funds in monitoring both existing and future conservation land. They expressed a desire for better communication with the Planning Board prior to approval conditions containing a conservation easement. Further discussion centered again on procuring the appropriate funds for the monitoring and enforcing of conservation easement as well as the annual cost of the review and report of each parcel conservation easement. Mr. Allen said his client would accept responsibility for the necessary fees as set forth by the Commission.

Members agreed to review the deed and propose a provision for payment of fees for the monitoring and reporting. Mr. Allen will provide a draft example and Mark will provide a sample monitoring worksheet. It was agreed to have a special meeting before the regular October one to review and sign the conservation easement deeds with the added provisions.

Proposed Chapel Road Telecommunications Tower

Sherrie Davis of New Hampshire Soils was present for the appointment. Chuck reviewed the application for those present, confirming that the area of impact is 326 square feet at the access road and Chapel Road. The project at that area comprises the installation of a twelve inch culvert over a swale along Chapel Rd. to access the proposed site. Following up from the August Conservation meeting, Chuck provided copies of the letter written to the Zoning Board's attorney. Members tabled any action until they receive a response from their inquiry. They will include this item in the special meeting should the information be in on time.

New Members

Vacancies for one full member and one alternate were discussed. A resident who expressed interest in serving on the Commission will be invited to the next meeting.

5) OTHER BUSINESS

Marston Farm Mowing

After a motion, duly seconded, it was voted to authorize the mowing and payment of same for the Marston Farm.

Conservation Parcels Monitoring

Members continued their discussion regarding the legal and fiscal responsibility of monitoring conservation land. The costs and time involved of annual land review reports of each parcel was also addressed. Members also talked about establishing a protocol for accepting conservation easements. These issues will be addressed at a future meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Perkins
Secretary