NORTH HAMPTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES August 28, 2007

1) ROLL CALL

Present when the hearing was called to order at 7:05 p.m. was Chris Ganotis (Chairman) Lee Brooks (Vice Chair), John Petersen (Treasurer), Shirley Carter, Stan Knowles, Patty O'Connor, Alternates Lisa Wilson, Phil Thayer and Peter Simmons.

Chris reported that the public hearing notice was legally published in the Portsmouth Herald and posted in two public places in accordance with the applicable RSA's. He announced that with the quorum of members, the Public Hearing could be legally held.

2) To consider recommendations from the North Hampton Forever Subcommittee of the Conservation Commission and receive public comment for the purchase of land as follows: A fee simple purchase for 23 +/- acres parcel of land owned by Ruth S. Donais residing at 46 Walnut Avenue. The Parcel is identified as Tax Map 15, Lot 13. The total purchase price of the parcel is \$23,000 with funding from the North Hampton Conservation bond funds approved in 2001.

NH Forever Co-chair Phil Wilson discussed the proposal as outlined above. He pointed out that the land is strategic in that it abuts other current and prospective conservation parcels and a strategic fit with the criteria set forth by the Federal Government's Coastal Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP) for federal grant funding. He added that placing the parcel in conservation further protects the Winnicut River watershed. He further indicated that the purchase price was fair market value based on the appraisals of similar parcels, at \$1,000 per acre. He added that, subject to the approval of the Conservation Commission and the Board of Selectmen, the closing could be held as soon as possible, since Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) funding has already been secured.

The Chair added that discussions with the Rockingham County Conservation District (RCCD) indicated a willingness by RCCD to provide monitoring and stewardship of the parcel.

Further discussion by Commission members was opened by the Chair. There were no new comments.

Further Discussion by the Public was opened by the Chair. Having no comments from the public, the Public input portion of this hearing was closed.

The Chair called for any other discussion. Hearing none, a motion was made by Stan Knowles to adjourn, seconded by Shirley Carter. The vote on the motion was unanimous. The Public Hearing was closed at 7:16 PM.

Submitted by : Chris G. Ganotis

