

NORTH HAMPTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
March 9, 2010

1) ROLL CALL AND ADMINISTRATIVE

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. Present were Chris Ganotis (Chair), Lee Brooks (Vice Chair), John Petersen, Shirley Carter, Stanley Knowles and Alternate Philip Thayer arriving 15 minutes after the meeting was called to order. Members of the public present included North Hampton resident Glenn Shwaery and Jeffrey and Donald Knowles.

2) CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

February 8 and 16, 2010 regular Meeting and Special Meeting, respectively. *After review of the February 8 minutes, a motion was made by Lee Brooks, duly seconded by Shirley Carter, to approve the minutes as written.* It was voted favorably unanimously with John Petersen abstaining. The minutes of the Special Meeting of February 16 were reviewed. *Afterwards, a motion was made by Stan Knowles and seconded by Shirley Carter to approve the minutes as written, with attachments. The vote was unanimous to approve the minutes with John Petersen abstaining.*

3) TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer John Petersen presented the report. *After review of the report, a motion was made by Lee Brooks, duly seconded by Stanley Knowles, to approve the report.* The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

4) NEW BUSINESS

1. Proposal to upgrade a man-made standing water pool into a wetlands area
Prior to discussion, Stanley Knowles and Lee Brooks recused themselves from actions taken by the Commission regarding this proposal. Stan Knowles presented engineering drawings, photographs and a Dredge and Fill application to excavate a portion of a standing water area behind Knowles Field and to develop a year-round wetlands area in the excavated area. The dredged materials were proposed to be deposited into a nearby on-site area and landscaped and upgraded. The proposal was reviewed and approved in principal by Frank Richardson of the DES. The drawings, photographs and application were reviewed. Since there was not a quorum of remaining Commission members, action was tabled pending a quorum. Approximately 5 minutes later, Phil Thayer arrived, at which time, the Chair took up the tabled matter and Phil also reviewed the proposal. The Chair reopened the consideration of this matter. *After further discussion, a motion was made by Shirley Carter, seconded by John Petersen, for the Commission to approve the proposal as shown in the plans and application.* Having a quorum voting, the vote was unanimous, with Stan and Lee not voting because they recused themselves from Commission action on this proposal. Following this matter, Mssrs. Knowles and Brooks were permitted to the table and participate in the other Commission business.

5) **OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Guest Speaker presentation collaboration with Library.** Professor Jeffrey Bolster, UNH, “Environmental Change in NH” March 31, 2010
Philip Thayer indicated that he has been coordinating with the library to initiate public awareness announcements for this presentation. Phil added that he will contact Prof. Bolster to seek additional detail on the contents of the presentation.

Greystone Project: no new information.

4. **Town Forest Signs** Granite posts have been dropped off at the Town Forest by the highway department.

5. **Placement of parcel 12-62, a former Lamprey family parcel donated to the Town, into Conservation.** *A motion was made by Lee, seconded by Stan, to retain legal services to record the amended deed with conservation restrictions.* The vote was unanimous in favor.

6. **CELCP Proposal preparation.** The application will not be written, since the property owner did not agree to the CELCP requirements pertaining to public access.

6) **OTHER BUSINESS**

1. **ZBA Correspondence:** The Commission agreed to take no further action until after Wetlands Scientist Dr. Leonard Lord completes his review memoranda for applications for pending cases: Map 6, Lot 108, 66 Woodland Rd., ZBA Case 2010:01; Map 5, Lot 32, 20 Chapel Rd. ZBA Case 2010:05 and Map 6, Lot 147-2, 112 Mill Rd, ZBA Case 2010:02.

2. **North Hampton Forever** On February 23, the Chair and North Hampton Forever Co-chair Phil Wilson met with Ted Diers, DES Coastal Program Director and DES CELCP Coordinator to discuss proposed projects for CELCP grant applications. Mr. Diers indicated that unless we have matching parcels in the Little River Watershed, we should not submit a Grant application for a parcel in that watershed. Another setback was that he also indicated that match parcels were required to have been acquired within three years prior to the date of final CELCP award, to be about May, 2011. This requirement eliminated the possibility of using the Page Farm parcels in conservation as match. Finally, parcels being considered for CELCP Grants must meet the public access requirements to be eligible for award. A result of these constraints, no CELCP application will be written for the current round of funding.

3. The Commission agreed to pursue exploratory efforts to acquire additional conservation land using Capital Reserve funds.

4. **Surveyor services** The Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests has requested that a surveyor be retained by the Commission to place a moved boundary pin for the Boies Wildlife Preserve to its proper location. Several years ago, a survey completed by Surveyor James Vera in connection with an abutting parcel with a proposed cell tower indicated that the

pin was not in its proper location. After discussion, a ***motion was made by Stan Knowles, seconded by Shirley Carter to retain the services of Surveyor James Vera to restore the pin placement to its proper location.*** The vote on the motion was passed unanimously.

5. Mr Jim Kierstead requested that the Commission remove a tree that had fallen on his property from adjacent Conservation land. There was discussion about fallen trees becoming the responsibility of the land owner onto which the tree has fallen due to Acts of God such as wind storms. The Chair agreed follow up with Mr Kierstead.

7) OTHER CORRESPONDENCE AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Chair announced that the UNH Cooperative Extension Service “**Saving Special Places Conference**” will be held in Weare in April and he circulated the brochure. He added that any Commission member is welcome to attend.

Mr. Glenn Shwaery introduced himself as a former Kittery Conservation Commission member with previous other Town board experience with his prior communities.

There being no further business, ***a motion was made by Shirley Carter, duly seconded by Lee Brooks, to adjourn the meeting.*** The motion unanimously passed and the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Ganotis and Lee Brooks
Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively
March 11, 2010