

NORTH HAMPTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
April 13, 2010

1) ROLL CALL AND ADMINISTRATIVE

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. Present were Chris Ganotis (Chair), Lee Brooks (Vice Chair), Shirley Carter, Alternates Philip Thayer and Lisa Wilson and Stanley Knowles arriving 55 minutes after the meeting was called to order. Members of the public included North Hampton Forever Co-Chair Phil Wilson, Jessica Devoid and Megan Cook, Dept. of Environmental Services for the State of NH, Forrest Bell, President of FB Environmental Consulting, Carl McMorran, Aquarion Water Company and Robert Copp, Agricultural Committee.

2) CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of March 9, 2010 After *review of the March 9 minutes, a motion was made by Lee Brooks, duly seconded by Philip Thayer, to approve the minutes as written.* It was voted unanimously with Lisa Wilson abstaining.

3) TREASURER'S REPORT

Bank Statements for March were unavailable, so the Commission agreed to table the report to the next meeting.

4) NEW BUSINESS

4-1 Jessica Devoid of Dept. of Environmental Services for the State of NH reported to the committee the results of Little River water quality test program conducted last fall which included one round of wet and dry sampling. She passed out a table of results and descriptive maps. The data indicated high levels of e-coli bacteria at several test points in the Little River watershed. This spring DES will be conducting three more wet and dry sample runs to evaluate a follow-on program for improving water quality in the Little River. They will further investigate the water quality at the beach near the salt marsh culvert. Testing will be completed by early-mid June. The test results will include a data base for a future grant application and a watershed plan.

4-2 Carl McMorran, of Aquarion Water presented a program for the sale of rain barrels at discounted prices to capture rainwater to use for gardens, flowers and other household uses and to conserve drinking water and energy. Aquarion is offering a half-price proposal for the barrels.

4-3 Bob Copp, Member of the Agricultural Committee presented a plan for a

Community Garden for North Hampton residents, for location on the Marston Farm Conservation parcel on Exeter Road. Issues discussed were traffic, water, security, management and development funding for the garden. The garden would be pesticide free with no chemical fertilizers. *A motion was made by Shirley Carter, duly seconded by Philip Thayer to support the proposal and to permit the use of the conservation land for a Community Garden. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.*

5) OLD BUSINESS

5-1 Trees blown down at Town Forest. Stanley Knowles will meet with Kendall Chevalier and a licensed forester from Northwood to manage the clean-up of trees that were blown down in recent storms, particularly those obstructing the right-of-way in the Town Forest. Sixteen trees were lost, including several in the right of way. *A motion was made by Lisa Wilson, duly seconded by Philip Thayer, for the expenditure of not to exceed \$1,200 from the Town Forest account to do the cleanup and removal of the trees in and around the access road. During discussion of the motion, a request was made to reconsider the amount to \$1,500. The motion was then amended by Lisa Wilson, duly seconded by Shirley Carter, to expend a not-to-exceed amount of \$1,500 from the Town Forest account for the cleanup and removal of the blown down trees. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.*

Lisa Wilson reported that she has the plaques for the Town Forest signs and is coordinating their installation.

5-2 Placement of Parcels into Conservation and recording of deed restrictions Michelle Peckham is in the process of completing the conservation deed restrictions to record in the Rockingham County Registry of Deeds.

6) OTHER BUSINESS

6-1 ZBA Correspondence: Dr. Leonard Lord's expert analysis and opinion memoranda recommended that the Commission recommend against the requests for wetlands setback variances for the following pending cases:

1. Map 6, Lot 147-2, 112 Mill Road Use of Mill Pond to meet lot area Requirement, ZBA Case 2010:02
Continued to May Meeting
2. Map 6, Lot 108, 66 Woodland Road, ZBA Case 2010:01
Continued to July Meeting
3. Map 20 Chapel Road Case 2010-5, M/L 5-32
Continued to April Meeting

6-2 North Hampton Forever Update - No new information.

- 6-2 **Planning Board Correspondence:** One important warrant article regarding wetlands setbacks for cases prior to March of 1988 will be on the Town Warrant at the May Town meeting vote.
- 6-3 The Chair reported that he spent \$60.55 for Commission administrative costs for stamps, printing paper and a flash drive to store conservation files in digital format. *A motion was made by Lisa Wilson, duly seconded by Shirley Carter to approve this amount from the Commission budget for these items. The motion passed unanimously.*
- 6-4 It was discussed that a copy of Conservation easements files be copied for better accessibility by the public by placing them in 3 ring binders and placing the binders in the library or other convenient location for public access. These files are currently kept in a secure, fire-resistant file cabinet in the Town Office storage room. *A motion was made by Stanley Knowles, duly seconded by Philip Thayer to make a copy of files of Conservation deeds and easements to be placed in binders and placed in the Library or other location to allow for easier public access.* The motion was carried unanimously. Shirley will take the lead on this project.

7) OTHER CORRESPONDENCE AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chris Ganotis received an email regarding the Winnicutt River Walk on May 15 in Greenland. All are welcome to attend.

There being no further business, *a motion was made by Stanley Knowles, duly seconded by Lee Brooks, to adjourn the meeting.* With a unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Beverly Moore
Recording Secretary