

Meeting Minutes
North Hampton Conservation Commission
April 12, 2011

Administrative

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. Present were Chris Ganotis, (Chair), Lee Brooks (Vice Chair), John Peterson (Treasurer), Shirley Carter and Lisa Wilson (Alternate). Members of the public included Chuck Gordon, Don Gould, Tim Harned, Shir Hiberman, Rick Stanton and Phil Wilson, North Hampton For Ever Co-Chair.

Consideration of Minutes

Minutes of the March 8, 2011 Meeting

After review of the March 8, 2011 minutes, a motion was made by Lee Brooks, duly seconded by Shirley Carter, to approve the minutes as written. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report

John Peterson presented the February report. *After review of the report, a motion was made by Shirley Carter, duly seconded by Lee Brooks, to approve the Treasurer's Report.* The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Old Business

Rockingham County Planning Commission: File copying status

Theresa Walker continues to digitize and copy Conservation file documents with PREP grant funding and will also be completing a draft on technical limitations of rain gardens and preserving North Hampton For Ever easement documents, stewardship agreements and Purchase & Sales Agreements.

UCC Land Update

All approvals have been signed by the Board of Selectman and are binding, awaiting the survey to be completed. The work is delayed because the surveyor is having difficulty finding a deed with Meets and Bounds, since it is a King's Grant parcel dating back to the 1700's. A detailed deed review was needed. The cost of the survey is \$3,200. Once completed, the closing can be completed.

Conservation Land Signs

An estimate of \$212.75 was given for multiple copies of five different signs to be posted at and around conservation parcels. They will be 4" X 6", bright yellow with black lettering. Payment was approved in the February Conservation Commission meeting.

Trail Maintenance Proposal

Greg Harned, high school junior and part time landscaper, has volunteered to do proposed trail maintenance work as a public service project. He plans to maintain a couple of trails on the Dustin property, check the damage and tree falls and work with others from the high school to continue this service in the future. It was stated by the Chair that at least one other person must accompany him when he is working with equipment and that he give a monthly progress report to the Commission, as this is not part of the Senior Seminar program. While the Town is protected from liability for people on Conservation property, through the RSA, the Town's liability for a worker on the property was unclear. It was suggested that a sixth sign be posted to read: "Enter At Your Own Risk". ***After some discussion on this matter, a motion was made by Lisa Wilson, duly seconded by Lee Brooks, to approve this project, contingent on establishing Town liability protection.*** The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Winnicut Watershed Coalition Update

Jean Eno, Project Director, sent Chris Ganotis a grant update e-mail stating that the final approval for the NHDES Coastal Program is days away and will include a baseline water quality testing program along the Winnicut River in North Hampton.

Debris Cleanup, Dustin Farm

Several houses on Winnicutt Road border the back lot of Conservation Land. Litter from the open houses construction was reported by Philip Thayer. The Code Enforcement Officer was notified and the contractor agreed to clean up the litter in a very timely manner.

New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commission Dues

Chris Ganotis, Chair, received an invoice regarding annual dues. ***A motion was made by John Peterson, duly seconded by Lisa Wilson, to approve \$250 to continue to be a member of the NHACC.*** The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

New Business

North Hampton For Ever Update

Phil Wilson reported that just under \$4,000,000 has been spent. The final bonding is in final review.

ZBA Correspondence

No new correspondence

Planning Board Correspondence – Master Plan Update on Conservation

Chris Ganotis, Chair, reviewed the section on Conservation and noted that there are 1,376 acres of conservation land in the town. He reported that the section of the Master Plan was very well written and complete.

It was suggested that a study be done to benchmark the acreage of forested land in the Town. Chris will contact UNH Professor Pekins to explore this further.

Other Correspondence

Surveyor James Vera updates the town tax map every two years. Chris Ganotis identified several errors in the current map and will give suggested editing comments.

Don Gould raised the question as to what the final amount that was paid for the Corbett land and how the land purchase was funded. It was pointed out that the funding of purchases is handled by the town and not the Conservation Commission nor North Hampton Forever and that this information may be obtained from Town administration personnel.

There being no further business, *a motion was made by Shirley Carter, duly seconded by Lee Brooks*, to adjourn. The vote was unanimous to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Beverly Moore
Recording Secretary