

**Meeting Minutes**  
**North Hampton Conservation Commission**  
**May 10, 2011**

**Administrative**

**Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. Present were Chris Ganotis (Chair), Lee Brooks (Vice Chair), Shirley Carter, Philip Thayer and Lisa Wilson (Alternate).

**Consideration of Minutes**

Minutes of the April 12, 2011 Meeting

*After review of the April 12, 2011 minutes, a motion was made by Lee Brooks, duly seconded by Lisa Wilson, to approve the minutes as written.* The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

**Treasurer's Report**

Chris Ganotis presented the report in John Peterson's absence. *After review of the report, a motion was made by Philip Thayer, duly seconded by Lee Brooks, to approve the Treasurer's Report.* The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

**Old Business**

Rockingham County Planning Commission: File copying status

Theresa Walker has completed the first batch of files and continues to digitize and copy Conservation file documents with PREP grant funding. The files will be held in archives in both paper and digital formats. The draft on technical limitations of rain gardens has not yet been completed.

UCC Land Update

The surveying, including a detailed deed review and a stewardship agreement were completed and the closing for the United Church of Christ took place last week. The budget of up to fifty thousand dollars was approved by the Commission in March to be spent from the Capital Reserve #8 fund and somewhat over \$40,000 was spent. Michelle Peckham and Bill Boesch were very helpful in getting the deed finalized by the court to place the land ownership with the church prior to the closing.

Conservation Land Signs

Fifty bright yellow signs of several types were made to show where trails locations and boundaries on Conservation land, with at a cost of signs of about \$250. Their placement on conservation land is planned as a summer project.

Study of Forested land area in North Hampton

Chris Ganotis read a proposal from Brianna Trow for a project that will delineate the acreage of forested and other land classifications areas in North Hampton. This information will be provided as a map layer overlay to the Commission's conservation

parcels and wetlands master map and will be done by the Rockingham Planning Commission. The not-to-exceed proposed budget is \$600 and could make a useful addition to the Planning Board's Master Plan, Environment and Conservation section. ***A motion was made by Philip Thayer, duly seconded by Shirley Carter, to go forward with this study at a cost of no greater than \$600 to be taken from the operating budget.*** The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

#### Trail Maintenance Proposals, Parcels:

Three projects were discussed for the Dustin, Luff, and behind Outlet Mall conservation parcels.

Chris Ganotis will discuss the Luff parcel with Dan Brown and Chris is awaiting approval from the Town Administrator on liability coverage for Greg Harned before starting the proposed trail maintenance work as a public service project. Prior to starting the Boy Scout project for a trail on the Conservation land behind the outlet mall, we need owner approval to cross their land to access the trail. The Corbett property will likely be a future trail project. Philip Thayer will use GPS for laying out a proposed trail.

#### Winnicut River Watershed Coalition Update

Awaiting plans for conducting the baseline water quality testing. Testing will be funded by part of a Fuller Foundation grant to the Winnicut River Coalition.

#### Debris Clean-up, Dustin Farm

Litter from the open dumpsters used for house construction was cleaned up by the contractor. It was further suggested that dumpsters on the contractor home sites should be covered to prevent further littering of the conservation land.

#### **New Business**

##### North Hampton For Ever Update

An internal audit was completed regarding the spending of the bond money. The audit confirmed that the total spending was below the bond limit of \$4,000,000. The total purchases from the bonds plus grants and land gifting resulted in about 650 acres of land and nearly \$2,000,000 in federal grants. The combined value of the land under North Hampton Forever projects was over \$7 million. The total land acreage in the Conservation land inventory has more than doubled since 2001, when the North Hampton For Ever program began.

#### **ZBA Correspondence**

None

#### **Planning Board Correspondence**

The Master Plan has been updated.

#### **Other Correspondence and Other Administrative**

Public Comment by Invitation of the Chair: None

The Chair clarified that the funding for North Hampton Forever projects is not managed by the Commission or by North Hampton Forever. Funding of Bond Anticipation Notes

and Bonds is managed by the Town administration only. The Chair emphasized that, contrary to newspaper letters, there was no improper nor illicit activity of any kind associated with members of the Commission or by North Hampton Forever regarding how funds were raised and spent notwithstanding the implications made. The Chair also pointed out that an expenditure of \$57,000 from the General Fund was merely the use of part of the conservation funding residual BAN conservation funds that were placed into the general fund by a directive of the former Town Administrator.

The Chair added that as a result of public comments made in the April meeting, henceforth public comment will only be allowed by invitation of the Chair. The Commission concurred.

The Chair then thanked Shirley Carter for her many years of dedicated service on the Commission and for her public service to the Town. Shirley's appointment to the Commission ends in June and she has decided not to seek a renewed term.

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 adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Beverly Moore  
Recording Secretary