

Meeting Minutes
North Hampton Conservation Commission
July 12, 2011

Administrative

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. Present were Chris Ganotis (Chair), Lee Brooks (Vice Chair), Rick Stoklosa, Anita Pounder and Lisa Wilson (Alternate).

Consideration of Minutes

Minutes of the June 14, 2011

Due to members not present from the June 14, 2011 meeting, a motion was made by Lee Brooks, duly seconded by Rick Stoklosa, for the June 14, 2011 minutes to be tabled until the next meeting. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report

Chris Ganotis presented the treasurer's report. First, the Chair indicated thanks for Penny Holbert's hard work and assistance with various bank accounts and acknowledged her efforts. *After review of the report, a motion was made by Lisa Wilson, duly seconded by Rick Stoklosa.* The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

Old Business

Rockingham County Planning Commission

Theresa Walker has completed the copying except for the Corbett and Church properties files. Her hard work was acknowledged and appreciated.

Study of Forested land area in North Hampton: Status Report

Chris Ganotis read a summary of the classifications of land areas in the town, which shows where the forest land is located. In 1962 the total forested area was 5,600 acres. In 2010 it was 3,400 acres – an approximate 40% difference. Chris also presented the forested map for all to view.

Trail Maintenance Projects. Parcels: Dustin, Luff, behind outlet mall, other

Greg Harned is still working on mowing and working on the land trails. Approval was given by the owners of the land to allow trail work behind the outlet mall conservation easement land, which Philip Thayer and his scout group will begin. Dan Brown will begin work on the Luff parcel by first clearing the right-of-way on the golf course land between Highlander Dr and the conservation land. Signs will be posted to show where the trails end.

Trail Use Communications: Newsletter, Brochure, Website

More public awareness needs to be done to communicate information on the locations of the trails. There was some discussion of each conservation member working on a particular trail and include the location, where to park, entrance access, description of the

trail and what to expect to see on the trails. Several assignments were made with more to come for other members.

Winnicutt River Watershed Coalition Update: Water Quality Testing
Volunteers are being trained this week on procedures for collecting test samples along the river at designated sample points. Results will be given to DES to establish a baseline water quality profile for the river.

Conservation Correspondence Materials: mailings, files, document copying, map mounting
A total of \$75.00 was spent for materials, with small additional spending for maps to be mounted on foam core backing.

Annual Brush and Grass Mowing for Marston Farm
This project has recently been completed.

New Business

John Hubbard has asked for a routine permit approval for a culvert repair beneath Sea Road. After brief discussions, a ***motion was made by Lee Brooks, duly seconded by Lisa Wilson, to approve a DES maintenance permit for the repair.*** The motion carried, with Anita Pounder abstaining.

Member Reappointments and New Appointments

The Chair welcomed two new members, Rick Stoklosa and Anita Pounder and Lee Brooks for his reappointment and thanked them for joining the Commission.

Election of Conservation Commission Officers

A motion was made by Lee Brooks, duly seconded by Lisa Wilson, to nominate John Peterson as Treasurer of the Commission. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Rick Stoklosa, duly seconded by Anita Pounder, to nominate Lee Brooks as Vice Chair. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Lee Brooks, duly seconded by Lisa Wilson, to nominate Chris Ganotis as Chair. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

RSA 91A Right to Know Act: update, review and Commission Members' Responsibilities for Compliance

The Chair presented a summary of what limitations and responsibilities are included in the Right-To-Know Act, RSA 91A, for public bodies including the Conservation Commission. Updates will to be done annually for updates, in accordance with the new Rule of Procedure addition by the Commission. RSA 91:A discussions will become a part of each future meeting Agenda. The Chair added that Steve Fournier is trying to get Paul Sanderson, an attorney with the Local Government Center, to speak on this Act at a public forum in North Hampton.

ZBA Correspondence

None, however Lisa Wilson mentioned that she is now an alternate on the ZBA and would recuse herself from Conservation Commission business discussions that would come before the ZBA.

Planning Board Correspondence

Maps of land use changes over nearly a 5-decade span were done for the Planning Board as part of the Master Plan.

Other Correspondence and Other Administrative

North Hampton Beach

The beach was recently closed because of high levels of e-coli found in water test samples at the beach by the DES. Similar tests done in 2009 and 2010 along the Little River showed that samples from below Mill Pond and near the Appledore neighborhood exceeded safe levels for recreational use; in some cases over 10 times the safe level. The test data suggest that e-coli levels at the beach is coming from the Little River. The Chair indicated that enforcement actions must be initiated to curtail the growing problem of e-coli at the beach. After some discussion, ***a motion was made by Lee Brooks, duly seconded by Lisa Wilson***, for the Chair write a letter to the Select Board, Health Officer and Code Enforcement Officer regarding this matter of concern and to include the test data showing specific test data points with excessive e-coli levels, and a recent article in the Portsmouth Herald entitled “Little River has Big Impact on Beach”. The motion was unanimously approved.

Public Comment by Invitation of the Chair

None

There being no further business to discuss, ***a motion was made by Lee Brooks, duly seconded by Rick Stoklosa, to adjourn the meeting***. The vote was unanimous to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Moore

Recording Secretary