

DRAFT
North Hampton Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2015

1. Administrative

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. The Agenda was posted in compliance with RSA 91A and Town Policy requirements.

Roll Call

Attendance included Chris Ganotis (Chair), Lisa Wilson (Vice Chair), Kathy Grant and Peter Robie. Having a quorum, the meeting was opened for business.

Consideration of Minutes of August 11 Meeting

After review of the August 11, 2015 minutes, *a motion was made by Lisa Wilson, duly seconded by Peter Robie, to accept the minutes as written.* The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

2. New Business

Conservation Sub-Division Easement Agreement – 142 Mill Rd Map 12, Lot 67

Tabled from August Meeting, awaiting a response from Mr. Skowronski to the Commission to finalize acceptable terms for the proposed easement.

Attorney General Report Regarding Lamprey Farm Easement

A summary of the Attorney General's report by Attorney Reagan Bissonnette, Director of Easement Stewardship of the *Society of the Protection of NH Forests* was published in the newsletter of the *New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions* to give commissions throughout the state lessons learned for considering possible conservation easement violations.

To summarize the letter from the *Office of the Attorney General of the State of New Hampshire* to the North Hampton Conservation Commission dated July 24, 2015, it has been determined upon investigating the terms of Lamprey Conservation Easement "that the relocation of a barn onto Lamprey Field did not violate the terms of the conservation easement – is a reasonable exercise of the Commission's fiduciary duties as the holder of the easement. Accordingly, the Attorney General, Director of Charitable Trusts will take no action with respect to that determination."

Chris Ganotis noted that the enforcement of possible conservation easement violations is vested with the Grantee and legal precedent confirms that neighbors have no legal standing in intervening in the Grantee's deliberations concerning possible violations.

3. Old Business

Conservation Easement Subcommittee Update:

Work will resume to update the database to be made available to the public via the Library and Town Offices.

Winnicut River Watershed Grant Pre-Proposal Status

The North Hampton Winnicut River Watershed Grant Pre-Proposal application has been accepted by DES. *The New Hampshire Rivers Council* will be submitting the application for the 319 Grant recipients on behalf of the towns of Greenland, Stratham, and North Hampton. *The New Hampshire Rivers Council* will develop the Winnicut River Water Management proposal due this fall and the selection process and grant award are planned to be determined by year-end.

Winnicut River and Little River Water Quality Testing

Tests are ongoing. The quality of the water has slightly improved in the Little River but still poor in the Winnicut River mostly from low dissolved oxygen levels.

DES Grant for 319 Watershed Surface Water Runoff Projects

North Road Project:

Project photos were emailed to the Commission for the recently completed 319 DES Grant projects along North Road and at the Woodland Road Little River culvert in North Hampton. The North Road project has a new rip-rap bank and base to mitigate surface water flow erosion, contamination, and sedimentation into the Little River, which flows through a culvert beneath North Road. At the end of the stone surface North Hampton's Department of Public Works employees placed a silt fence and hay bale to filter the effluent flowing into the river.

Woodland Road Project

Project photos were emailed to the Commission for the Woodland Road/Atlantic Avenue Little River culvert project from which the river flows through conservation land. The project includes a wing-wall on the south side of the culvert and a stone retention basin and will include plantings above the slope to the river to mitigate surface water erosion. Volunteers are needed to help plant the vegetative cover.

Lisa Wilson volunteered to work with other volunteers to plant and to water the newly planted vegetation to fulfill the in-kind match credit toward the completed work.

The Commission thanks **John Hubbard and his crew** who did a great job on these projects which were funded by the DES. John Hubbard's work on behalf of the Town is being applied to the in-kind match that is a requirement for receiving funding from the EPA 319 Grant Program of the Federal Clean Water Act for Non-Point Water Sources.

Expedited DES Wetlands Permit Application

Commissioners present at the August 24, 2015 North Road Site Walk and Meeting approved the following expedited wetlands permit: **Norman and Sandra Bolyea, 9 Old Locke Road, Map 5, Lot 21:** An expedited wetlands permit application, submitted on behalf of the property owners at 9 Old Locke Road, by the Town of North Hampton, Public Works department. It entailed the replacement of a non-functioning culvert and for reshaping the surrounding grade to allow for proper surface water runoff flow.

New Business:

The Commission discussed the content of the newsletter information to be submitted by the September 9, 2015 deadline.

Renewal of *New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions (NHACC) membership* dues: *A motion was made by Kathy Grant, duly seconded by Peter Robie to authorize the Conservation Commission to expend \$333.00 from the budget to renew the 2016 NHACC membership.*

The 2015 NHACC Annual Meeting will take place on November 7 in Pembroke, NH.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Peter Robie, duly seconded by Kathy Grant and unanimously passed to adjourn at. 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Wilson, Vice Chair

“These minutes are prepared by Lisa Wilson within five (5) days as required by NH RSA 2,11. They will not be finalized until approved by majority vote by the Conservation Commission.”