

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
 “NORTH HAMPTON FOREVER” SUBCOMMITTEE
 TOWN OF NORTH HAMPTON
 MINUTES OF MEETING
 JULY 18, 2001

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 AM in the Mary Herbert Conference Room. In attendance were T. Harned, P. Wilson, and D. Wollmar as members of the committee, and H. Mixer as Chairman of the Conservation Commission.

Tracy Degnan from Rockingham County Conservation District (RCCD) attended the meeting and discussed various ways RCCD can assist NH-Forever. Tracy reviewed existing projects RCCD has undertaken with other towns. In summary, RCCD provides assistance with identifying potential grant sources and preparing grant proposals related to land conservation and open space protection. There are about 10 to 12 grant sources available.

Any properties NH-Forever identifies, RCCD can review and determine if applicable grant programs exist. They can then submit a proposal for preparing the grant application, including responsibilities and expected costs. If the proposal is approved, RCCD will perform the tasks specified. A typical time frame is 8 weeks requiring 40-50 hours of RCCD time.

The committee discussed and developed criteria for evaluating properties that are potential candidates for the North Hampton Forever program. It is based on awarding points in six categories for a maximum total of 100 points. The categories are weighted differently in some cases to reflect the relative importance. The following table summarizes the categories and their score ranges.

1) Visibility	Frontage on a Major Road	0 - 15
	Scenic	0 - 5
	Historic Value	0 - 5
2) Availability and Attractiveness for Development		0 - 20
3) Agriculture or Forest Value		0 - 20
4) Protects Aquifer, Wildlife Habitat, Rivers & Streams ...etc.		0 - 20
5) Useful for Education or Recreation		0 - 10
6) Leverages to Protect Additional Land, Greenbelts ...etc.		0 - 5
Total		0 - 100

In addition, a method for weighting the size of a property was also discussed. Simply using acreage is not desirable as it gives too much emphasis to large properties. Using the

Log₁₀ of the acreage multiplied by the total property score was proposed. This would weight the properties as shown in the following table.

Acres	Log Multiplier
5	0.7
10	1.0
20	1.3
50	1.7
100	2.0

The committee agrees the criteria are preliminary and subject to further discussion and development. The Committee also agrees the criteria are only a guideline for the Committee.

T. Harned moved, P. Wilson seconded, and the committee approved the minutes of the June 27, 2001 meeting.

The committee scheduled its next meeting for Wednesday, August 8 at 7:00 PM at the Mary Herbert conference room.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 AM.