



Town of Sandown , NH

Conservation Commission

Minutes

November 1, 2012

Date: November 1, 2012

Place: Sandown Town Hall

Members Present: Paul Carey – Chair, Brian Butler, Scott Burt, Samantha Borbone, Andrea Cairns

Members Absent: Mark Traeger

Selectmen Liaison: Mr. Hans Nicolaisen: Absent

Environmental Consultant: Mr. Gerry Miller, Certified Wetlands Scientist: Present

Annual Fishing Derby Chair: Mrs. Heidi Chaput: Absent

Opening: Mr. Carey opened the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

Mr. Carey explained that the Commission has been in negotiations for several months and came up with a land purchase proposal they felt would be good for the town. He noted they are purchasing approximately 83 acres, mostly upland with access to Hersey Road and Odell Road. He also noted as part of the agreement that the Commission would do the surveying of the parcels and the final purchase price would be \$180,000.

Ms. Donna Green of 3 Cranberry Meadow Road, Mr. Kevin Major of 49 Snow Lane and Ms. Alice Walton of Nashua were present.

Mr. Carey explained that the Drowne's applied for the wetland reserve program, so the remaining land, approximately 203 acres would go into conservation. He also noted the land would be contiguous with another town owned parcel. He explained that the Drowne's were retaining two 6-acre lots and 1-12 acre lot.

Ms. Green questioned on the map which area was being retained by the Drowne's. Mr. Carey clarified which lots were the buildable lots.

Mr. Major was happy with the plans.

Ms. Green noted that she applauded their effort to buy public land, but did not like that the plans allowed for future development on a class six road. She felt the economics of the deal hinged on the fact that the Drowne's retained the three buildable lots.

Mr. Wayne Britton was also present and noted that those lots were never on the table as part of the agreement and this land purchase had no affect on the way the land was divided and that the lots were within zoning regulations.

Mr. Carey reminded Ms. Green that those lots were not under Conservation's purview. He also reminded Ms. Green that it was once an approved subdivision for 144 housing units. Ms. Green agreed the plan was a big improvement.

Mr. Butler understood Ms. Green's concerns but also agreed that it was the responsibility of the Planning Board and the Selectman. He also reminded her that there is a significant amount of land going into the wetland reserve which

has one of the highest ratings by the program.

Ms. Green still felt that the economics of the deal were structured around the fact that there were two lots left on a class six road. Mr. Carey confirmed that the house lots were never on the table to purchase.

Mr. Major noted that it is classified as a class six road, but the condition of the road was better than a typical class six road, noting that it was wide and had underground utilities.

Ms. Green noted that the road floods in the spring and there are public safety issues with having houses on a class six road. She also noted that when it was going to be a 55+ development she voted against it since there was not suitable access on Hersey Road.

Mr. Butler and Mr. Carey stated again that it wasn't the appropriate board to discuss the issue with.

Mr. Major was happy with the purchase.

Members of the Commission and members of the public discussed the benefits of conserving land.

Mr. Chuck Crowe of 18 Phillips Road was present. He asked if the public would have access to the land. Mr. Butler noted it would be part of the federal reserve so the public would have access and would be able to hunt on it.

7:43 – Mr. Carey closed the public hearing

Mr. Crowe asked the Commission if he could put traps on the Porter, Odell and Fremont Road properties. He noted the state required written permission from land owners, that he takes a safety course and the traps needed to be labeled with his name. He noted the season started that day and went until April 10th. Mr. Crowe requested to be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

Review of 10/11/12 Minutes

MOTION: Mr. Burt made a motion to accept the 10/11/12 minutes as written. Ms. Borbone seconded the motion. Ms. Cairns abstained. The motion passed.

Mr. Carey approved Mr. Miller's invoice and Ms. Cairns' timecard.

Mr. Carey noted he received a call from the Selectman's office with an issue and contacted Mr. Miller to see if he could look into the situation. Mr. Larry White at 3 Summer Street had a question about an existing retaining wall that needed to be covered or repaired. Mr. Miller went to the property to see the area in question. He told Mr. White that the project fell under two different types of permits. He gave him the contact information at DES to obtain those permits. He also gave him numbers for the town's building inspector to see if he needed town permits. Mr. White thanked him for the information.

Old Business

Mr. Burt asked if anything was going on with Fremont Road logging. Mr. Butler noted he did call Charlie Moreno and will follow-up again with him.

Mr. Carey noted they had a booth set up at the Spooky Walk with some literature. He felt it was worth being there for the first part of the evening. Ms. Borbone noted it would have been better to have trail maps.

Tick Management

Mr. Carey suggested putting out an RFP after the first of the year to get some presentations on environmentally and kid friendly options for tick management in the Fremont Road Town Forest.

Mr. Butler agreed with the project and noted he would also like to add the community garden to the scope of the project.

Members agreed it would be a good idea.

New Business

Members felt they should postpone the discussion regarding QR Codes until Mr. Traeger could be present.

MOTION: Mr. Butler made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Burt seconded the motion. All members voted unanimously in favor. The motion passed. MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andrea Cairns".

Andrea Cairns