

Stratham Conservation Commission  
Meeting Minutes: Wednesday, October 10, 2012

Members present: Tim Copeland, Pat Elwell, Bill Grace, Donna Jensen, Bob Keating, Allison Knab, Dan McAuliffe

Non-members present: Michael Cody, Roger Stephenson, Rachel Stevens

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

*Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve Easement Discussion*

- Rachel Stevens of the GBNERR discussed a parcel of potential conservation land located along the Squamscott River. The parcel is around a half-acre and currently contains a camp and right of way. The GBNERR is discussing purchasing the parcel with Sports Fish and Wildlife, but is looking for other financing options, including receiving a 25 percent match. The parcel is priced at \$89K with an estimated \$25,900 additional costs; a 25 percent match would thereby be \$28,900. Its value is as a salt marsh.
- The CC discussed the town contributing by doing a controlled burn of the existing structure on the property, contributing with a small amount of money, using a CC property as a match (e.g. Zarnowski).
- The purchase is in very preliminary stages; Rachel will keep us updated.
- *Chapmans' Landing*: Rachel updated the CC on Chapman's Landing – invasive plants have been pulled; some landscaping and wildlife pond work has been started.

*Easements*

- Jones easement: closing date is targeted for the end of the month.
- Goodrich easement: language is being reworded and will be passed to the Goodriches

*Mail*

- Lenny Lord of RCCD sent updates on easement monitoring. Pat motioned, Tim seconded a motion for RCCD to perform easement monitoring on the same parcels of lands as in previous years, and to ask if they will consider a multi-year agreement at the current rate. The motion passed unanimously.
- A UNH student was interested in wetland permits for a university project. Pat had suggested the recent Union Road project; the CC discussed other past permits that might be interesting for the student's projects.
- The Sykas law office sent a bill for work done in September for \$648. Pat motioned, Tim seconded a motion to pay the bill out of the Land Conservation Fund. The motion passed unanimously.
- The NH Association for Conservation Commissions will hold its annual meeting on November 3.

*Other*

- Caroline Robinson: Donna is looking at a 10x12 inch wooden plaque that could be wall mounted or placed on a shelf. The CC suggested using an actual photo along with the plaque instead of some sort of etching.

- Michael Cody is in a masters program at Tufts and was attending the meeting for a class. The CC discussed the workings of the committee/easements with him.

Allison motioned, Pat seconded adjourning the meeting at 8:23 p.m. All voted in favor.

The next Conservation Committee meeting will be held October 24, 2012

Respectfully submitted by Allison Knab, secretary