

WOLFEBORO CONSERVATION COMMISSION
November 9, 2009
MINUTES

Members Present: Dan Coons, Chairman, Mike Hodder, Vice-Chairman, Bob Gilbert, Ed Roundy, Dave Wheeler, Members.

Members Absent: Randy Tetreault, Lenore Clark, Members, Sarah Silk, Alternate.

Staff Present: Lee Ann Keathley, Secretary.

Chairman Coons opened the meeting at 6:38 PM.

Consideration of Minutes
October 12, 2009

It was moved by Ed Roundy and seconded by Dave Wheeler to approve the October 12, 2009 Wolfeboro Conservation Commission minutes as submitted. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

Consideration of Dredge & Fill Minutes
October 10, 2009

It was moved by Mike Hodder and seconded by Bob Gilbert to approve the October 10, 2009 Wolfeboro Conservation Commission Dredge & Fill minutes as submitted. Dan Coons, Mike Hodder voted in favor. Ed Roundy, Dave Wheeler abstained. The motion passed.

Discussion Items

➤ **Abenaki Pond Voluntary Deed Restriction**

Dan Coons stated the BOS have requested the Commission review and comment on a proposed Voluntary Deed Restriction on the Abenaki Pond site (pursuant to a NH DES condition for the permitting of the expansion of the parking lot at Pop Whalen Arena).

Mike Hodder questioned whether the deed restricted area should be managed by the Conservation Commission.

Dan Coons replied yes.

Following review of the Voluntary Deed Restriction, the Commission recommended the following changes;

- Subparagraph A: to read as follows; *"The Deed Restriction Area shall be maintained in perpetuity as natural forest and wetland / open space; free from industrial, commercial or other activities that may cause degradation of surface or subsurface waters or soils."*
- Insert new subparagraph; *"E. The Voluntary Deed Restriction shall be managed by the Wolfeboro Conservation Commission."*
- 2nd subparagraph D, 2nd line; strike "significantly"
- Format error on page 2 (goes from "i." to "B", "C" & "D")

➤ **Ryefield Marsh / Ellie's Woodland Walk**

Mike Hodder stated he has brush cut Ellie's twice and has broken down the beaver dam twice. He noted the following necessary repairs; 3 rotted boards on edges of the walkway, 5 additional boards need to be rebuilt and repair/replacement of several areas where the support boards underneath the duck boards have rotted. He estimated the cost of repairs between \$300 - \$400 and reviewed the existing and proposed material to be used in the repairs (to be purchased at Winnepesaukee Lumber). He recommended the repairs be scheduled for 2010.

Ed Roundy questioned long term repairs for the site.

Mike Hodder stated the repairs would be ongoing and as needed; estimating an approximate cost of \$100 - \$200 for yearly maintenance including clearing of brush. He discussed the issue with the beavers.

Ed Roundy stated the Commission should consider trapping the beavers or install an overflow device if there is a continued problem with the beaver dams and water level.

Mike Hodder stated that if the beavers were removed, the water level would drop; noting such could significantly alter the terrain of the marsh and believes the beavers and beaver dam is essential to the maintenance of the marsh. He stated that once the food supply is gone, the beavers will move on. He stated there are two areas where the water runs over the boardwalk due to the beaver dam.

It was moved by Mike Hodder and seconded by Dave Wheeler to authorize the expenditure of funds, not to exceed \$400, for maintenance at Ellie's Woodland Walk and for \$216 from the 2009 budget, specifically 46110.490, Other Property Series, be encumbered. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

➤ **Planning Board Public Hearings**

Staff informed the Commission that the Planning Board has scheduled Boathouse Ordinance and Wetlands Ordinance public hearings for 11/17/09, 7 PM @ the library.

The Commission requested the proposed changes to the ordinances be distributed via email.

➤ **Town Garden Boundary Encroachment (Callahan)**

Mike Hodder informed the Commission of an encroachment onto the Town's Garden property from the Callahan property on Old Mill Road. He stated he met with the couple on 10/23/09; noting they were unaware of their actions. He stated the Callahan's hired a person to mow their lawn and extended their lawn onto the Town's Garden property as well as planted two small pines. The Callahan's requested to continue cutting the bittersweet, asked the pines not be removed and stated they would allow the area to grow back to its natural state.

➤ **Town's Garden property**

Mike Hodder stated an additional 3-5 pines were taken down to allow for additional sunlight into the garden area; noting the value of the wood would be credited towards the material used to maintain the site. He stated the Food Pantry may be receiving a substantial Farmers of America grant; grant money to be used for the purchase of materials to raise the beds, construct a garden shed and tools. He stated he would ensure that any activity would not impact the land in a negative manner. He stated the gate would be installed in the spring.

Dan Coons stated he would complete the wetland delineation by the end of the week.

➤ **LCIP Annual Monitoring Reports**

Inspection of the Front Bay Conservation Area has been completed and the report submitted to Steve Walker, OEP.

➤ **Bill Rae Conservation Area**

Staff stated the Commission has been scheduled to appear before the BOS regarding such on 12/2/09.

Dan Coons requested the date be rescheduled to 12/16/09.

➤ **SB381**

Mike Hodder stated he attended the NHACC Annual Meeting and it was stated that the exact wording has to be placed on the ballot and voted on; noting the language cannot be revised. He stated it was recommended to submit the warrant article at the time there is a viable project and a more favorable political climate.

➤ **Boundary Marking of Conservation properties / easements**

Tutt Lot; scheduled for 11/16/09

Front Bay Conservation Area; scheduled for 11/12/09

New Business

➤ **White Face Mountain**

Ed Roundy stated several members of the Commission attended a field trip to White Face Mountain.

➤ **Lake Wentworth Management Plan**

Mike Hodder stated the Lake Wentworth Association has agreed to proceed with writing a grant for \$100,000 to begin a management plan for Lake Wentworth; grant submittal to be complete by 8/2010. He stated there is no obvious role for the Commission at this time.

➤ **Goodwin's Basin**

Ed Roundy recommended the Commission sponsor a seminar on the site related to shoreland protection. He stated the Land Bank raised the issue of signage at the site; requesting such be placed as an agenda item for discussion.

It was moved by Dave Wheeler and seconded by Mike Hodder to adjourn the November 9, 2009 Wolfeboro Conservation Commission meeting. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 7:59 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lee Ann Heathley