

WOLFEBORO CONSERVATION COMMISSION
September 12, 2011
MINUTES

Members Present: Dan Coons, Chairman, Mike Hodder, Vice-Chairman, Dave Wheeler, Lenore Clark, Gail Antonucci, Ed Roundy, Randy Tetreault, Members, Dick Jones, Sarah Silk, Alternates.

Staff Present: Lee Ann Keathley, Secretary.

Chairman Coons opened the meeting at 6:37 PM.

Consideration of Minutes
August 8, 2011

It was moved by Mike Hodder and seconded by Ed Roundy to approve the August 8, 2011 Wolfeboro Conservation Commission minutes as submitted. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

Discussion Items

➤ **Front Bay Conservation Area Recreational Park**

Mike Hodder stated Josh Ryan will commence work on the trails in June 2012 and complete the project by mid August 2012. He stated the new parking area would be prepped this fall for the staging equipment and Pollini Brothers would do the final surfacing of the parking area once the trails have been constructed.

Gail Antonucci questioned whether the project was bid out.

Sarah Silk stated the project needs to be put out to bid due to the cost of the project.

Mike Hodder stated the Trustees donated \$15,000; noting \$17,000 is still needed.

Ed Roundy questioned whether the budget for the project includes an invasive species plan.

Mike Hodder replied no.

Ed Roundy stated he would like such to be built into the budget and requested a professional long term plan relative to such.

Mike Hodder questioned whether regulations exist for Bittersweet.

Dan Coons stated he is not aware of any.

Ed Roundy stated burning bush is more problematic then the Bittersweet.

Mike Hodder reviewed the following potential names for the park; Abenaki Park, Wolfeboro Falls Park, Abenaki Falls, Smith River Falls. He stated "Front Bay" is noted on the USGS and L-Chip maps.

Dick Jones recommended Veterans Front Bay Park for the name and stated 12.3% of all Americans are handicapped and up to 29.1% are veterans.

Sarah Silk stated that if the park is named something other than Veterans Front Bay Park could a section be dedicated to veterans.

Ed Roundy questioned the cost estimate for the shelter.

Mike Hodder stated \$20,000-\$25,000. He noted the following additional costs; \$60,000-\$70,000 for build-out, \$16,000 for parking lots, \$2,000-\$4,000 for signage, \$10,000-\$15,000 for portage and \$1,500 per bench.

Ed Roundy questioned the number of benches.

Mike Hodder replied 1-2 at the waterfront (portage & shelter), trail benches (possibly ½ mile apart). He stated there would not be portable toilets.

➤ **Conservation Easements on Town owned properties**

Dan Coons stated the Lake Wentworth Foundation is interested in holding easements however, not on the Towns Garden property. He stated the Lakes Region Conservation Trust is not interested in holding the easement for the Towns Garden or Town forest properties however, is interested in holding easements for the other properties.

➤ **Forestry**

Dan Coons stated the Commission received a check from Southern Maine Forestry for the Willey Brook property.

➤ **Bill Rae Conservation Area**

Staff stated the Commission received a donation in the amount of \$5,000.

Dan Coons stated gravel had been delivered and spread by the parking area however, the gravel material was too large and needs to be removed.

Sarah Silk recommended speaking to Adam Tasker regarding a trash receptacle at the site.

Dan Coons stated he has not yet heard from Jed Talbot and will contact him.

➤ **Natural Resource Protection**

Sarah Silk requested the Agricultural Commission be included in the review process.

Dan Coons recommended prime agricultural land be included in the list of criteria.

➤ **Bean property**

Dan Coons stated he spoke to Jim Bean; the conservation easement would be submitted to both the Conservation Commission and the Bean family for review.

➤ **Goodwins Basin**

Staff informed the Commission Bill Donovan stated the shoreline trimming would be done by today.

Dan Coons stated the trimming has not been done.

New Business

➤ **Ellie's Woodland Walk**

Mike Hodder stated the Chamber of Commerce has withdrawn the brochure because too many tourists were stating that when they would visit Ellie's Woodland Walk, the brochure was misleading and out of date. He stated markers 1-5 are no longer posted. He recommended the brochure be rewritten and reviewed the costs associated with the printing of the brochures (Blacksmith Printing v. Kingswood Press).

Dan Coons recommended including a map on the brochure.

It was moved by Lenore Clark and seconded by Gail Antonucci to authorize the expenditure of \$300 for the printing of the Ellie's Woodland Walk brochure. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

➤ **Hopewell Trust**

Randy Tetreault stated he is conducting a survey for the Hopewell Trust on a parcel in Cotton Valley which a conservation easement is held by the Lakes Region Conservation Trust. He stated the family wishes to subdivide the parcel; noting proposal meets the exemption clause if the Conservation Subdivision Regulations. He stated Rob Houseman is reviewing the proposal and would be making a determination to the Planning Board and Conservation Commission.

Old Business

➤ **Allen Stevens Preserve**

Dan Coons stated Don Trice informed him they are close to having the full amount of pledges and has received support from the Lake Wentworth Foundation. He stated the closing on the property is expected for January 2012.

➤ **Hubbard property**

Dan Coons stated Len Hubbard contacted him and expressed an interest in pursuing a conservation easement on the property; noting the legal issues have been resolved.

It was moved by Mike Hodder and seconded by Dave Wheeler to adjourn the September 12, 2011 Wolfeboro Conservation Commission meeting. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lee Ann Keathley

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