

WOLFEBORO CONSERVATION COMMISSION
February 13, 2012
MINUTES

Members Present: Dan Coons, Chairman, Ed Roundy, Dave Wheeler, Randy Tetreault, Lenore Clark, Members, Dick Jones, Sarah Silk, Alternates.

Members Absent: Mike Hodder, Vice-Chairman, Gail Antonucci, Member.

Staff Present: Rob Houseman, Director of Planning and Development, Lee Ann Keathley, Secretary.

Chairman Coons opened the meeting at 6:35 PM.

Chairman Coons appointed Sarah Silk, Alternate, to sit in for Gail Antonucci, Member and Dick Jones, Alternate, to sit in for Mike Hodder, Member.

Consideration of Minutes

January 9, 2012

Corrections:

Page 2, Bill Rae Conservation Area; strike 2nd, 3rd, 4th paragraphs.

Referencing the corrections, Sarah Silk stated the Town has the right to use Sargents Pond Road because they are a lot owner. She stated the letter referenced in paragraph 2 relates to access issues and not an agreement between the property owners and the Town.

It was moved by Sarah Silk and seconded by Dick Jones to approve the January 9, 2012 Wolfeboro Conservation Commission minutes as amended. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

Dredge & Fill Minutes

January 7, 2012

It was moved by Sarah Silk and seconded by Dave Wheeler to approve the January 7, 2012 Wolfeboro Conservation Commission Dredge & Fill minutes as submitted. Dan Coons, Randy Tetreault, Ed Roundy voted in favor. Sarah Silk, Dave Wheeler, Lenore Clark abstained. The motion passed.

January 19, 2012

It was moved by Sarah Silk and seconded by Dave Wheeler to approve the January 19, 2012 Wolfeboro Conservation Commission Dredge & Fill minutes as submitted. Dan Coons, Randy Tetreault, Ed Roundy voted in favor. Sarah Silk, Dave Wheeler, Lenore Clark abstained. The motion passed.

January 30, 2012

It was moved by Sarah Silk and seconded by Dave Wheeler to approve the January 7, 2012 Wolfeboro Conservation Commission Dredge & Fill minutes as submitted. Dan Coons, Randy Tetreault, Dave Wheeler, Ed Roundy voted in favor. Sarah Silk, Lenore Clark abstained. The motion passed.

Discussion Items

➤ **UNH Cooperative Extension, Taking Action for Wildlife**

Amanda Stone, Wendy Scribner

Planning Board members present: Kathy Barnard, Chairman, Stacie Jo Pope, Vice-Chairman, Chris Franson, Member.

Amanda Stone stated Taking Action for Wildlife is a partnership between UNH Cooperative Extension and NH Fish & Game to keep species off the endangered list and protect wildlife habitats; noting 123 critical species are noted in the Wildlife Action Plan. She stated the organization received an application for the stewardship program. She reviewed what other towns have done and how they have incorporated the program into their regulations. She verified the Town of Wolfeboro has a separate Natural Resources Chapter.

Wendy Scribner stated the organization provides resources for landowners based on habitat types.

Rob Houseman stated the Planning Board has put forth revisions to the Wetlands Ordinance and proposed a Steep Slope Ordinance on the 2012 Town Warrant and noted Master Plan Implementation is included in the Planning Board's work program.

Amanda Stone and Wendy Scribner reviewed the maps with the Commission and public. She reviewed the definitions of grasslands; noting all grasslands is incorporated on the maps. She stated the maps are used as a starting point in determining the location of habitats.

Stacie Jo Pope questioned how such would work with logging and forest management.

Wendy Scribner stated forest management plans are required when a Town is part of the stewardship program.

Summary of discussion:

- Identify areas for protection; protection of watersheds and water protection
- Current Use landowners; send stewardship series information
- Conservation Planning; connect to Protection Priorities list)
- Educate people regarding protected areas
- Water Resources and wildlife approach
- Identify increased value wetlands; target areas for compensatory mitigation
- Focus on wetland areas and smaller scale habitats
- Set benchmark for lot size standard with abutting lots
- Funnel Development Constraint maps into a course of action
- Work plan to be developed by UNH Cooperative Extension

➤ **Beaver Trapping at Ryefield Marsh**

Dan Coons stated he spoke to the trapper who reported that he has removed one beaver thus far. He stated 20 beavers were removed from Currie DeBow's property.

➤ **Master Plan Natural Resources Chapter Recommendations**

Dan Coons stated the Planning Board has requested the Commission review the recommendations of the Natural Resource Chapter and evaluate whether the Commission believes the tasks have been properly assigned and consider incorporating the recommendations into the Commission's work program.

The Commission appointed a subcommittee to review such; members to include Dan Coons, Lenore Clark and Randy Tetreault.

➤ **Front Bay Conservation Area Recreational Park**

Dan Coons stated several members of the Commission met with Wendy Scribner, Forester, UNH Cooperative Extension at the site. Ms. Scribner stated the area is overcrowded with trees significantly. Subsequently, he met with Jed Talbot who has proposed to remove 25%-35% of the existing trees.

Lenore Clark questioned where the proceeds would go.

Dan Coons stated the forestry costs would be more than the proceeds. He distributed Jed Talbot's proposal and cost estimates (Options 1 & 2) and recommended the Commission pay for the work out of the forestry proceeds from Trask Mountain and Willey Brook.

Ed Roundy expressed concern for scarring and questioned whether the Commission should consider something less extensive than what is proposed. He stated it would be advantageous to do the forestry prior to trail construction.

Dan Coons stated Mr. Talbot proposes to do the work in March and would use the location of the path for the skidder trail.

Randy Tetreault recommended monitoring the forestry activity to address Mr. Roundy's concerns.

Sarah Silk recommended Ms. Scribner review such.

It was moved by Sarah Silk and seconded by Lenore Clark to contract Jed Talbot, Off The Beaten Path, for the Timber Stand Improvement Project at the Front Bay Conservation Area, cost of project being \$15,975.00 (Option #1; Skidder Tracked Loader and Hand Crew); noting the funds for the project would be taken from the Trask Mountain and Willey Brook forestry proceeds. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

➤ **Bill Rae Conservation Area**

Dan Coons stated he discussed forestry at the Bill Rae Conservation Area with Jed Talbot, Off the Beaten Path; noting Mr. Talbot would submit a proposal for such.

➤ **Goodwins Basin**

Referencing the Budget Committee's request for the Parks and Recreation Department to take over the mowing at Goodwins Basin, Sarah Silk expressed concern that as things get added to the Parks & Recreation budget regarding maintenance of the Conservation properties, the Parks & Recreation budget will increase. However, she stated the Budget Committee will not provide additional funding for such.

Dan Coons stated the trimming is almost complete at Goodwin's Basin.

➤ **Hubbard Conservation Easement**

Dan Coons stated the appraisal has not been completed; noting the Land Bank and Moose Mountain Regional Greenways has been kept apprised of the status.

New Business

➤ **Route 109 property**

Sarah Silk informed the Commission a parcel that borders Ryefield Marsh located on Route 109. The parcel was originally owned by the Town then sold to the abutter (who also owned the adjacent parcel as well in which his house is located); noting the owner of those parcels has not paid the taxes on the properties and the Town may now be getting the parcel back.

Sarah Silk moved the Wolfeboro Conservation Commission to enter non-public session at 9:03 PM to discuss a real estate matter. The motion was seconded by Dave Wheeler. Roll Call Vote: Dan Coons; yes, Randy Tetreault; yes, Lenore Clark; yes, Dave Wheeler; yes, Ed Roundy; yes, Dick Jones; yes. The motion passed.

The Board re-entered public session at 9:14 PM.

Chairman Coons stated the nonpublic session minutes of February 13, 2012 were sealed by a 2/3 vote as required by law.

It was moved by Lenore Clark and seconded by Dave Wheeler to adjourn the February 13, 2012 Wolfeboro Conservation Commission meeting. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lee Ann Keathley

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