

DRAFT MINUTES
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
MAY 11, 2011

PRESENT: Bob Boynton, Chairman, David McTigue, Doug Waitt, Matthew Oliveira, Joanne Meshna

ABSENT: Dixie Rhoads, Jack Messe, Becky Doyle

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Town Office.

The minutes of the April 13, 2011 meeting were reviewed and the following changes made: page 1, 2nd to last paragraph, last sentence should read "Mr. Cargill was told..."; page 1, last paragraph, fourth sentence should read "...cut 10 MBF or 20 cords of wood..."; page 2, under New Business, first sentence should read "...boundary of the Rice/Tuttle parcel." David made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Matt seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Lands: Northeast Wilderness Trust contacted Bob regarding a parcel of land, 44 acres, located on Ashby/Whittemore Hill Roads owned by the Bon family. The owners want to have the parcel protected forever and the Monadnock Conservancy, Northeast Wilderness Trust and Audubon Society are not interested in it. The Bon family wants to give it to the Town. Northeast Wilderness Trust would hold an easement on it. According to the site visit report provided to Bob, no structures would be allowed. Bob noted that a kiosk marking the trail would be desirable. Also, leave-no-trace camping would be allowed. Members had concern for trash left behind, fires, etc. Bob will meet with the Board of Selectmen to see if they are in favor of accepting the parcel. If they are in favor, he will then contact the Northeast Wilderness Trust. The Commission agreed to split the cost of the survey and legal fees.

Communications: Matt will e-mail the draft of the brochure to members.

Water Resources: When Swift Corwin did his investigation of the Cargill timber cutting, he determined that 48% of the basal area of trees had been cut and since 50% is the limitation, there was no violation. The Planning Board may work on new language for the regulations. However, the Forestry and Lands Division is proposing legislation to do away with any buffer.

On Saturday, May 14, 2011, at 8:00 a.m. there will be a site walk of the Judythe Carson lot at 242 Ashburnham Road by the Zoning Board. Conservation Commission members are urged to attend.

New Business: Green Crow Corporation won the court case against the Town.

Doug presented designs for a Conservation Commission logo done by high school students. He will e-mail them to members and ask for voting of first, second and third place.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Meshna, Secretary