

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
JUNE 13, 2007

PRESENT: Bob Boynton, Chairman, Doug Waitt, Jack Messe, Dan Daly, Friedericke Kazo, Betsy Thoms, David Lage, Joanne Meshna
ABSENT: Harvey Green, William Watkinson, David McTigue

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

Ben Blais, a Boy Scout with the Greenville troop, was present to discuss with the Commission possible projects he could be involved with beginning September 2008. He is interested in doing a project on trails. He was asked to bring his ideas and designs to the Commission when he decides upon a project.

Chad Branon from Meridian Land Services and Dixie Rhoads were present to discuss a wetlands application on lot 11/90, Old Tenney Road. The project consists of crossing a forested wetland to gain access to a proposed buildable lot. A 30" HDPE culvert with headwalls is proposed and the total wetlands disturbance is 2,950 square feet. The Commission will schedule a site visit once the application has been filed.

Committee Reports:

Open Space: Freddi reported that the Open Space Committee is focusing on working on the cluster development ordinance and incorporating the NRI into the building process. Bob asked that the committee provide the Commission with drafts of changes to the ordinance. The committee will look at large parcels and approach those landowners about conservation easements.

Trails: Jack has another Eagle Scout interested in doing a project with the Commission this summer. The kiosk at the Nussdorfer Nature Area needs to be replaced. Geoffer's Trail needs to be recut and remarked; a kiosk for that trail could also be built. A monument has been placed at Geoffer's Trail. Jack will evaluate the bog walk at the Nussdorfer Nature Area and decide what to do with it.

Jack made a motion to pay \$660.00 to Peterborough Marble and Granite Works for the balance due on the monument on the Geoffer's Trail. Freddi seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Lands: The Rhoads property needs monitoring.

Communications: Freddi submitted a draft of a Green Sheet on vernal pools to Bob. She will e-mail the draft to all members.

Water Resources: The signs for protection of the Souhegan River have been placed at Highbridge and Old Country Road. Doug thanked the Highway Department and Garrett Chamberlain for their work.

Doug asked if the Commission would be a member of the Souhegan Watershed Association. The membership dues are \$100.00. Bob will check if the Commission can be a member.

Two wetland applications were reviewed by Doug and Bob. The first was one filed by the Town for soccer fields. A site visit was held with the state who was also investigating a complaint by an abutter that when the volleyball fields were put the town filled in wetlands. It was the conclusion of the state representative that the wetlands had been filled in and the Town needs to file an after the fact application.

The other wetland application was for James Traffic off Page Hill Road. A site visit was conducted. It was the general consensus of the Commission that there could be other ways to configure the subdivision for less impact to wetlands. Doug made a motion that the Commission not recommend the application as proposed. Dan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Doug will prepare a letter to be sent to the state.

Tree Warden: Jim Hicks had approached the Board of Selectmen expressing his concern for trees along roadways that have the potential for falling and causing damage/injury. He suggested that the Commission do an inventory of all of these trees and that a plan for removal be developed. No action was taken by the Selectmen or Conservation Commission.

Old Business: The Board of Selectmen will hold a public hearing on June 26 at 7:00 p.m. regarding the relocation of the right-of-way on property owned by Northstone Builders.

New Business: Bob reported that someone had approached the Board of Selectmen regarding tapping of maple trees on the Johnson property. Members discussed the pros and cons of commercial operations on conservation property. The consensus of the Commission was that any use of conservation property for profit, by the general public, is undesirable and would create management problems; the Commission does not approve of such activity. Also, any activity on conservation property that is adverse to the purpose of the conservation easement or gift is undesirable and would not meet be approved.

Coming Events: June 23, 2:00-5:00 p.m., Rediscovering Cheshire Place: The Cultural History of the Wapack Wilderness Hampshire Country School in Rindge, New Hampshire. July 1, hike from Heald Tract (Wilton) to Pratt Pond (Mason). Departs from Monadnock Spring Water (intersection of Routes 31 and 101 in Wilton) at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Meshna, Secretary

