

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
JANUARY 14, 2009

PRESENT: Bob Boynton, Chairman, Jack Messe, Freddi Kazo, William Watkinson, Doug Waite, David McTigue, Joanne Meshna

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Town Office. Bob made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2008 meeting. Bill seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Open Space: Bob commented again on the two lots that Barbara Rice has for sale. One is a 150-200 acre lot abutting New England Forestry property and the other is a 36 acre lot in Tophet Swamp. The owner is asking \$15,000-\$20,000 for the smaller lot and \$100,000 for the larger one. Bob will contact New England Wilderness Trust to see if they would be interested in purchasing the larger lot with the Commission. Members agreed to have Bob make an offer on the smaller lot.

Water Resources: Doug will be working on the Environmental Trust grant. He is proposing the identification of streams, creeks and other small flowing waterways and having a naming contest for those that are unnamed involving one or more of the school classes, developing a map to display at various locations with the water bodies shown and names, and having signs made to display where these streams cross roads.

Tree Warden: Jonathan Sawyer has not accepted the job of Tree Warden. Freddi will contact Pat Little to see if she might be interested in the job.

Old Business: Bob received a call from Al Jenks who informed him he is not going to be putting his land in an easement; he plans to sell the property and retire. Bob questioned members on how long might be a reasonable time to put on promised monetary support from the Commission for applicants planning to put their land in easements. The Board agreed that two years was a reasonable time.

New Business: The Board of Selectmen held a public hearing last evening for a petition from Green Crow Corporation to upgrade West Binney Hill to a Class V road. The Selectmen will meet on January 27 for further input and to render a decision. On January 8, the Zoning Board approved the installation of a temporary meteorological tower for data collection purposes on Green Crow's property, lot 4/11, West Binney Hill Road. Members agreed this would be a good time to try and protect this land.

Freddi researched stone walls and submitted data on protection of internal walls to Bob. This will be further discussed at February's meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Joanne Meshna, Land Use Manager

