

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
SEPTEMBER 8, 2010

PRESENT: Bob Boynton, Chairman, Dixie Rhoads, Bill Watkinson, Doug Waite, David McTigue, Jack Messe, Joanne Meshna

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

The minutes of the August 11, 2010 were reviewed and the following corrections made: page one, under present, should be "David McTigue" not McLaughlin and under Lands, 2nd paragraph, first line should read "...protected by a land trust as well as the Rice/Tuttle lot." Bill made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Dixie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Zeke Somero and his mother Cindy were present to discuss carving of wood signs for the Commission. Doug explained that signs are needed for streams that cross roads. Zeke stated that he carves the signs and varnishes and polyurethanes them. He constructed the one for the Green Center and hanging by the entrance to the Town Office. Doug will determine how many signs are needed and what they will say, and the minimum and maximum size. Peter Goewey, Director of Public Works, will be asked for his input. Once the number of signs needed is determined, cost by size or number will be decided.

The Someros left the meeting. Doug gave prices on metal signs averaging around \$60.00 per sign. The Highway Department will install the signs. Members discussed what should be included on the signs such as a logo or elevations. Doug spoke with an art teacher regarding a logo and having a student contest for design of such. This would be done in the second semester beginning in January.

Committee Reports:

Trails: Bob hiked the Kellogg property scouting out areas for the trail. Jack and Doug will flag the trail and then Bob will plot the GPS points so they can be put on a map. Doug will be monitoring the Kellogg property.

Lands: Members discussed marking boundaries of new parcels with a sign or waiting until the land trust puts up their sign. It was agreed that there should be two signs, one for New Ipswich and one for the land trust.

There is a purchase and sales agreement on the Rice/Tuttle lot that has been sent to the seller for their attorney's review. Final signing should be in October or November.

Water Resources: John Ruotsala owns a lot on Smithville lot, lot 8/50-2. He wants to put in a driveway to the back of the lot which will go through wetlands. He has flagged the proposed drive and asked Bob to review the placement to see if it is in the best location. Bob asked members to view the proposed location. Mr. Ruotsala will be at the October meeting for the Commission's input.

The Turkey Hills Golf Course has been approved by the Zoning Board of Adjustment. The state requested that they re-locate the ponds in order to have no wetlands impact which was done.

Three proposals for the Furnace Brook project were reviewed by Bob, Marie Knowlton and Peter Goewey and Ken Hickey's was chosen.

New Business: October is the annual meeting of the Commission. The Nominating Committee is Dixie, Joanne and Bill.

The Green Crow property was discussed. Bob asked what could be done if anything to protect the land and if the Commission should get involved. Members agreed that is was part of a major greenway link. Bob will discuss with the New England Wilderness trust.

The Open Space Committee was discussed and members agreed to have only a Lands Committee which would encompass open space.

Bob discussed a minimum impact wetland application for Arthur Hakala, 87 Ashby Road. Mr. Hakala put in two 12 foot wide roads with culverts in order to build a sandbox/play area. He did not know he needed a permit from the State. The DES has viewed the site and asked that he reduce the size of the roads to 6 feet. Bob did not sign the application. The application is then not eligible for expedited processing and will be reviewed as a standard application.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Meshna, Secretary