

# Town of Weare

# Conservation Commission

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#### **Conservation Commission**

Andrew Fulton, Chairman Stephen Najjar, Vice Chair Michael Dahlberg, Secretary George Malette Wendy Stevens

# **CONSERVATION COMMISSION – OCTOBER 10, 2012 MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM by Chairman Fulton. Andy Fulton, Steve Najjar, Wendy Stevens, and George Malette present. Guests included Brian Hotz, Sean Madigan, Paul Doscher, and Ian McSweeney.

**I.** Andy mentioned that Wendy Stevens appeared before the BOS and is now a full member.

## II. Public Hearing for Purington project

Chairman Fulton opened the public hearing. Brian Hotz presenting for SPSNHF gave a farmland easement purchase project overview and confirmed that project closing would likely be by end of month, certainly by end of year. Steve asked whether hearing was for just \$15K from the Conservation Fund or also included \$32K from the Emma Sawyer Trust (being routed through the Conservation Fund). Andy confirmed that the hearing was for both and a total of \$47K would be expended from the Conservation Fund. The original CC \$15K pledge was made in March 2011. Steve motioned and George seconded approval of the \$47K expenditure from the Conservation Fund contingent upon verification of the \$32K deposit from the Emma Sawyer Trust. No third party public comments were offered and the public hearing was closed at 7:16 PM.

#### III. Sean Madigan re trapping report and request

Felch farm TF report - Sean noted lots of cat and coyote sign, trapped one large beaver, not much sign of muskrat, and some mink sign also. Sean requested permission to trap again (coyote and beaver, maybe coon, also otter if there). Sean also asked for permission to trap parcels 245 and 246 off of Mtn. road – primarily interested in beaver, GIS showed parcels to be lots 5 (16.36 acre) and 12.1 (54.9 acres) of Tax Map 410, and confirmed Town ownership. Steve motioned and George seconded permission for Mr. Madigan to trap the Felch Farm Town Forest again and to trap Ferrin Pond parcels 5 and 12.1 during the 2012/2013 season. All voted in favor.

#### IV. Paul Doscher regarding Barden land and other potential conservation land projects

Paul presented an overview of the Banks (land purchase), Brown (easement), Weatherbee (easement), and Barden projects (unknown easement or land). The relative merits of the projects as well as the McKenzie project on Quaker/Thorndike (unknown easement or land) were discussed. The CC held a non-public session to consider potential conservation purchases, funding mechanisms, and land prices. George motioned to go non-public and Steve seconded. By roll call vote all were in favor and CC entered non-public at 7:48 PM. CC came out of non-public session by affirmative roll call vote at 8:51 PM. George motioned and Steve seconded to seal and restrict the minutes of the non-public session.

## V. Ian McSweeney regarding conservation land projects

lan spoke regarding the Banks, Brown, and Weatherbee projects on behalf of the Russell Foundation. Ian asked for an increase in support for the Banks project from the Conservation Fund and noted that the Commission had previously pledged \$20K. Ian outlined a funding proposal that would include \$200K support from local funding sources, \$200K raised by ballot initiative, and \$200K from other sources outside

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the Town. Andy stated that the uncommitted Conservation Fund balance was approximately \$200K. Steve made motion to commit a total of \$50K to the Banks project from the Conservation Fund. There was no second and the motion was not considered. George made motion to support the Banks project with a total of \$70K from the Conservation Fund and Wendy seconded. The motion didn't carry with George and Wendy in the affirmative and Steve and Andy in the negative. Steve again motioned to commit a total of \$50K from the Conservation Fund thereby increasing the CC pledge to the Banks project by \$30K and George seconded. All voted in favor. Ian requested that the CC pledge funds in support of the Brown and Weatherbee projects. George motioned and Wendy seconded commitment of \$20K from the Conservation Fund to the Brown CE project. The motion didn't carry with George and Wendy in the affirmative and Steve and Andy in the negative. George motioned and Wendy seconded commitment of \$15K from the Conservation Fund to the Brown CE project. Discussion ensued and Andy and Steve made it clear that they were not in support of pledging funds in support of either the Brown or Weatherbee CE projects at this time. George withdrew his motion.

# VI. Review and approve minutes of September 12, 2012 meeting

George motioned and Wendy Stevens seconded to approve the amended September 12, 2012 meeting minutes. All voted in favor.

#### VII. PLANNING BOARD:

No planning board items were before the Commission.

### VIII. NH DES/WETLANDS BUREAU, ETC. CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1. Montgomery Shoreland Permit Application, 52 Branch Rd., Lake Horace, 106/50 was noted.
- 2. 9/20/12 Bureau request for information re. Chase Park sand replenishment was noted. A permit application is required to rectify the situation and close the enforcement file.
- **IX.** Andy mentioned that the Mtn. Rd. crossing construction is scheduled for November 2012 provided stream flow is manageable. Andy also mentioned that he would respond to Alex Lescarte's email regarding the stream crossing and access to his camp.
- X. The CC discussed the Chevy Hill Town Forest CE baseline report. Steve mentioned that the deficiency items should be included in the PLC baseline report particularly the issue with a stream diverted during logging prior to town purchase of the land. This was a significant pre-existing condition and when Steve spoke with Allison of PLC he was given the impression that the report would document it. Steve also suggested that the report should mention that the entirety of the parcel boundary was blazed and painted immediately prior to PLC securing the conservation easement. The CC agreed not to sign off on the baseline report until the remaining items are addressed and Andy said he would email Paula to that effect.
- **XI.** Steve agreed to check with Jeremy regarding the Town Forest Account 2012 warrant balance relative to the 8/15/12 Meadowsend Timberlands invoice 1-1390 (\$3,762).
- XII. The CC discussed Noah Payeur's Eagle Scout project Ferrin Pond T-shirt design proposal. George thought it might be good to have the design be more reflective of the particulars of his project such as the trail updating and to consider some design for the front of the shirt and Wendy thought it looked great. Andy mentioned that Noah would be on the November agenda since he was not able to attend the meeting tonight.
- **XIII.** Andy proposed a 2013 budget of \$1,215 including some budget line condensing and reorganization. Steve motioned and George seconded forwarding the proposed budget to Naomi and the BOS. All voted in favor.

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- XIV. Steve motioned and George seconded using the remainder of the 2012 budget to pay the 2012 ESRI license fee for the CC GIS software, with anything not covered by the CC 2012 budget to be paid for from the unrestricted grant account (Ciampi Fund). All voted in favor.
- **XV.** Steve motioned and George seconded for Andy to sign the Glenn DuBois 2012 trapping permit papers for continued trapping at the Wood Family Forest. All voted in favor. Prior trapping approval conditions are to be observed by Mr. DuBois.
- **XVI.** Andy mentioned that the CC received a Meridian 9/13/12 invoice 36519 for \$4,815.40 which will be paid from the Conservation Fund for Mtn. Rd. engineering services.
- **XVII.** George inquired about producing some standard scale large format NRI maps for display and use at the town office building. Andy mentioned that he was in possession of the originals from Kane and Ingram and that he would bring them to the November CC meeting.

XVIII. George motioned and Steve seconded meeting adjournment at 10:23 PM.

A true record,

Andrew C. Fulton

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WCC Chair