

# Town of Weare Conservation Commission

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### **Conservation Commission**

Andrew Fulton, Chairman Stephen Najjar, Vice Chair Jeff Jackson Lisa Grolljahn William Bolton

# **CONSERVATION COMMISSION – July 8, 2015 <u>draft</u> MINUTES**

Meeting called to order at 7:16 PM by Chairman Fulton. Members present: Andrew Fulton, Lisa Grolljahn, and Jeff Jackson Guests: Mike Lambert, Peter DeSantis, Mary DeSantis

#### I. PLANNING BOARD:

The CC reviewed the July 6, 2015 lot line adjustment for map 412 lots 170 and 170.2, on the south side of Colby Road, owned by GM Investment Partners LLP. The CC noted that the plan didn't show the existing driveway area and that a wetland crossing wasn't shown. The CC was also curious about the nature of the dump and why it was being isolated. Mr. Fulton said he would pass along the comments to the Planning Board.

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

Mr. Fulton noted Wetland Permit 2015-01361, Map 410/Lot 155.3, for Woodbridge Properties with property owned by Chris Bolton. He mentioned that this was the result of an application previously brought before the CC by Art Siciliano.

#### III. OTHER ITEMS:

1. Eastman Conservation Area Town Forest - Dave Ward of the Trails Subcommittee spoke of a trails master plan, wetlands plans, and sensitivity to tree species. He introduced Peter DeSantis of Comprehensive Trails Services. Mr. DeSantis inquired about the user groups of the forest, confirmed that he has a \$500 flat assessment fee, has training in mountain bike trail building, mentioned that he has built trails for mountain biking, hiking, and horseback riding, and that it would be up to the us to decide what's appropriate for the Eastman. Mr. Ward emphasized that he was interested in master planning for trails in an inclusive fashion and that we should consider whether we want to try to become a destination for recreation. Mike Lambert interjected that recreational opportunities are mentioned in the existing Weare Master Plan. Mr. DeSantis said that he would be glad to work with our Forester and that reclaiming trails after harvests can be done fairly easily. He mentioned that it is important for townsfolk to see some value in land be purchased for conservation. He felt that Merrimack and Londonderry were probably out front on trail destination marketing.

Mike Lambert had been invited by Dave Ward and introduced himself. He has a background in forestry, wetlands, CAD, GIS, septic design, and soils science. He has worked in Weare and feels the town has much to offer. He's an avid cycler and is aware that there could be conflicting interests between types of trail users. Mr. Lambert provided references and resource documents and expressed interest in trail work and master planning in Weare. He's a long term resident in the area, from Henniker and thinks Weare has much to offer. Mr. Lambert offered the USDA specifications for Wetland Trail Design and Construction. He was interested in being retained for trails services and apparently surprised that Comprehensive Trail Services has already been awarded \$500.

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- 2. Agenda items mentioned without discussion included a letter from the Mason Conservation Commission regarding a proposed natural gas line, MTL invoice 1-1620, copy of a MTL FSA for Eastman unit harvest through MTL property, the PLC newsletter, the NHTOA magazine, a USGS invite to a FEMA flood risk presentation, and a Todd Land Use Consultants May notice of past-due invoice for attendance at the April meeting.
- 3. Mr. Jackson informed the CC that folks are not understanding the blazing of the back side of the Ferrin Pond town forest and that by discussions with people from his neck of the woods he alleviated the misunderstanding. The CC expressed its appreciation of the effort and noted that education of the public regarding blazing needs to be ongoing.

Ms. Grolljahn motioned and Mr. Jackson seconded, all voted in favor, and meeting adjourned at 9:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Fulton (WCC Chair)