

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
CONWAY CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
June 11, 2008**

A meeting of the Conway Conservation Commission convened at 6:30 p.m. at the Whitaker Homesite in North Conway, NH. Present were: Paul Pinkham, David Weathers, Chuck Broomhall, Carol Lyman, and Alternate, Connie Briggs. Rob Adair was not able to attend the meeting, but submitted an Email offering corrections to the Minutes [See Approval of Minutes].

The Chair appointed Mr. Briggs as a full voting member. Ms. Kearney joined the meeting at 6:50 p.m. and was appointed a full voting member.

**Approval of Minutes: Minutes of 5/14/08** – The following corrections were noted: Pg. 3, para. 4, reference to NEMBA should designate New England *Bike Association*; Pg. 4, 2<sup>nd</sup> para., 1<sup>st</sup> sentence should read: Mr. Adair stated that on Sunday work will be done on the Red Tail Trail; however, one section at the top *of the log landing* is getting rutted out and he would like to bring in a small machine to fix and reroute this. [Mr. Adair also reported that at NEMBA's trail work day on May 18<sup>th</sup> 14 attendees completed 56 volunteer-hours of maintenance work on Red Tail Trail and Shedd Woods Trail. The work on Red Tail consisted of drainage work and rock armoring. Shedd Woods work involved bench-cutting a section of trail that goes across the steep slope below the view opening and removal of raspberry/thorn bushes in the same area.]

Correction noted on Pg. 3 by Mr. Weathers: Wetlands Applications – should indicate that “the state isn't doing pond applications, with the exception of agriculture ponds.”

Correction noted by Ms. Kearney on Pg. 3, para. 6: the word “put” is misspelled, and Ms. Kearney's name is misspelled in three places on Pg. 3.

**Motion was made by Mr. Briggs, seconded by Mr. Weathers and carried by unanimous vote, that the Commission accept the Minutes of the May 14<sup>th</sup> meeting as amended.**

**Public Comment:** None.

**Reports:**

- a. Mr. Johnson could not be present.
- b. Jeff Lougee could not be present and had sent an Email which Mr. Pinkham summarized as follows: TNC has hired its seasonal worker who will be working on a few projects on Town property. Mr. Sires has signed an MOU which includes maintenance of the trails (excluding Red Tail Trail), blow downs, routine maintenance. TNC will install new trail signs, repaint Pudding Pond signs at the North/South Road and Thompson Road, and refurbish kiosks and install new map holders. Mr. Pinkham noted

it is an \$1100 budget and Mr. Lougee was reminded to bill us before the end of the year. We budgeted \$3,000, but understand the budget now is \$1100.

Mr. Pinkham reported Mr. Johnson has finished grading the 700' new trail. Mr. Broomhall stated it is nice. Mr. Pinkham stated it should be seeded before fall.

c. Treasurer's Report: None.

d. Selectmen's Report: As a matter of clarification, Mr. Weathers wished to know what CCC is expecting from the Board of Selectmen for a report (unless something significant is going on). The only thing he had to report was the southern end of the bypass is on hold until they do something with the ten year plan. He would like spelled out what the Commission is looking for. Mr. Pinkham told him "anything having to do with Conservation Commission lands."

Mr. Weathers noted that permitting for events has become a concern. They are having the most trouble with applications that are not submitted in a timely manner, i.e. presently there are two events being held this coming weekend, one for a bike rally, and they have no idea how many or what type of bikes. He noted unless applications are in in time, they have no way of knowing this kind of information. Mr. Broomhall questioned whether they can say no. Mr. Weathers said the event holders have already advertised both events.

As regards Selectmen's reports, Mr. Weathers said he would think it would be something from the CCC going back before the Selectmen. Mr. Pinkham said we wrote our criteria up in 2006, submitted it to the Town Manager, and have not heard back. As regards major events and not knowing the numbers, the hospital is concerned about tending to them. Regularly there will not be a lot to report either way.

e. Trail Signs: Mr. Broomhall said the new trail came out quite well and will be a big plus for not just skiing, but hiking, walking, etc. He looked to see where signs were – leaving the field here there is a sign and a map of the area, as well as near the parking lot at John Fuller School. He said it would be good to have one on Kearsarge Road. Mr. Pinkham noted it is likely two locations where the kiosk would be valuable.

Mr. Broomhall said when we approved races we asked them to park near John Fuller and he wonders why we do not have the same restrictions for the softball people. Mr. Pinkham stated we have no jurisdiction over the softball people, maybe would have to take this up with the Recreation Dept. When Rec Dept. does the signs they need to refer to the fact that this is the entrance to a significant recreation/town forest area, perhaps a sign reading "you are now entering a town recreation area."

Ms. Lyman noted that the CCC drafted some bylaws for Whitaker Woods and questioned whether they ever got approved. Mr. Pinkham stated we have not finished the rules and regulations. Hunting was an issue, and who establishes where hunting is allowed, still to be settled.

Mr. Briggs stated Chubby Whitaker's deed says no fire arms or motorized vehicles other than for maintenance. Mr. Pinkham suggested we try to be more positive, stating things that *are* allowed rather than having signs stating what is not allowed. Ms. Lyman suggested reviewing the Rules and Regulations at one meeting and if anyone has a problem she would try to resolve it. Mr. Pinkham noted we also had mining concerns in Black Cap. He will put it back on the agenda for the next meeting.

Ms. Lyman stated dogs in the park is an issue right now. Mr. Pinkham said we follow the town's dog control law which is they are either leashed or under the control of an adult. Mr. Broomhall pointed out dog owners should be made to clean up after their dogs. Mr. Weathers said this was discussed at the Selectmen's meeting on Tues., but no action taken. They are still waiting for a report from the Parks Commission. Selectmen will not be acting on permit applications for Bark in the Park until they hear from them. He suggested Ms. Lyman contact Mr. Sires.

Other Business: Mr. Pinkham reported Father Mike Scalfani could not make tonight's meeting, but he is aware of our August meeting and would like to attend and see what we do as he may be interested in serving as an alternate. He had provided an extensive resume. Mr. Weathers said he would feel uncomfortable making a recommendation for anyone to the Selectmen until we have met and interviewed him/her.

Whitaker Management Plan: Mr. Johnson has that on a list of things to do.

Whitaker Video: Mr. Johnson is interested in producing a Whitaker Video including techniques of managing forests.

Wetlands Applications: Mr. Weathers had no new applications. He did report that the State has requested more information on Wade & Tanbor on Conway Lake – dredge and fill application to install a beach and dock on two lots. The State wants separate applications. The State is also requesting more information on the Fadden/Whitaker Subdivision on East Conway Road.

Rules & Regulations: Mr. Pinkham will revisit that and distribute an up to date version.

Next Meeting: It has been agreed CCC would not have a meeting in July unless something surfaces which might necessitate a special meeting.

Mr. Pinkham asked Mr. Weathers where we stand with the railroad bridge in back of Kennett Middle School. Mr. Weathers said he has not heard anything since the informational meeting at the Forest Service. They were to have come back to the Selectmen and have not. Also they have not discussed it with one of the major abutters who must agree.

**Motion was made by Mr. Weathers, seconded by Ms. Kearney and carried, that the meeting be adjourned at 7:20 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Gail T. Currier, Recording Secretary