

MINUTES OF MEETING
CONWAY CONSERVATION COMMISSION
April 14, 2010

A meeting of the Conway Conservation Commission convened at 6:30 p.m. at the Whitaker Homesite in North Conway, New Hampshire with the following present: Chair, Paul Pinkham; Rob Adair; Linda Kearney, Connie Briggs, David Weathers (Selectmen's Representative), and Karen Hallowell, Recording Secretary.

Also in attendance was Wink Lees of the Nature Conservancy.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES –MARCH 10, 2010

The Commission considered the Minutes of March 10, 2010. Ms. Kearney offered the following correction: Page 2, under Rules and Regulations, in the third sentence, the word signs should be changed to sign. Also, under Rules and Regulations, in the second paragraph, the word gazebo should be replaced with kiosk. **Mr. Briggs moved, seconded by Mr. Adair, to accept the minutes as amended. The motion carried unanimously.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

REPORTS

Peter Malia, Esq. – Mr. Pinkham advised that Peter Malia, Esquire of Hastings Law Office was going to discuss town land and conservation easements this evening. Mr. Malia advised he was unable to attend the meeting tonight and someone from his office will attend next month's meeting.

Don Johnson – Paul Pinkham advised that he has not talked with Don Johnson recently. There was no report.

Wink Lees – Mr. Lees advised they have a summer seasonal person starting next week. This person will be doing some trail work in the Green Hill area. Mr. Lees next reported that a memo of understanding is ready to be signed and will be sent to Town Manager, Earl Sires, for signature.

Treasurer's Report/Carol Lyman - The Treasurer, Carol Lyman, was not present and no report was given.

Selectmen's Report/David Weathers – Mr. Weathers advised that he will discuss a matter under the agenda item Wetlands Application later in the meeting.

Member Roundtable - Mr. Adair reported he checked Red Tail Trail and it seems to be in good condition. Mr. Adair further reported that he toured Whitaker Woods on his way here to the meeting this evening and the work done last year is still good and is holding up.

Linda Kearney stated she understands the town came to some agreement with Ed Poliquin regarding an old recreation trail. Mr. Adair advised that when Mr. Poliquin developed Evergreens on the Saco he granted easements to the town and now he has

asked to relocate one trail. Mr. Weathers advised that last week there was a presentation by Great Bridge Properties at the Board of Selectmen's meeting and Ed Poliquin also came to the meeting because the proposed development by Great Bridge Properties touches the trail. Also, someone was asking for a pedestrian crosswalk on Route 16. Mr. Poliquin came up with idea that where the trail hits the side of the property, he suggested bringing the trail out to the bridge and have it come out at Davis Park.

Rob Adair reported the Bike Path Committee talked to Ned Sullivan as they hoped that they can put a path to Davis Park; however, Ned is not willing at this time. The property is for sale.

Mr. Weathers stated that when Mr. Poliquin was at the Board of Selectmen's meeting he didn't bring up the Ned Sullivan property. Mr. Adair advised that you can't get through without crossing the Lovejoy property.

Mr. Pinkham advised the Commission received a letter from Christine Lydecker at the Pine Tree School. Christine advised they have a green team and for a service project they want to go into the wooded area behind the school. They want to clean up brush on the trail, build and put up bat houses, and mark the trail. They are interested in finding a spot for an outdoor class. Mr. Pinkham advised they do have liability insurance as this is a school project. Mr. Pinkham further advised that he received an email today from Ms. Lydecker advising they have started on the bat houses and want to start on the trail. They also have some funds they would like to use to replace the plexiglass on the sign out there. Mr. Pinkham advised that he told her yes but now wonders if there is something else non breakable because that is what was up there before. There was brief discussion and the Commission agreed that it was okay to tell her to proceed with regular plexiglass.

Mr. Pinkham advised that he is sending Town Hall a disc with the Town trail maps. Mr. Pinkham stated that he feels that the town website needs to have a downloadable copy of the maps and cleaner images.

OTHER BUSINESS

Appointments - Mr. Pinkham advised that he would like to defer this agenda item. Mr. Pinkham advised that he left a message for Karla Allen and is waiting to hear back from her. Ms. Allen had previously indicated interest in serving on the Commission. There were no objections to deferring this agenda item.

Mr. Pinkham next reviewed that in the minutes of the last meeting, it states the Commission was going to contact Todd Marshall to see if he is interested in filling a vacancy on the Commission. Mr. Weathers advised that Mr. Marshall is involved with many things right now.

Mr. Pinkham advised that he and Dan Lucy are up for reappointment.

USVLT Proposal - Wink Lees spoke regarding the resource inventory and advised the USVLT is proceeding along with this project. They had a meeting and discussed where they were with the project. Hopefully some maps will be produced shortly. Mr. Pinkham asked Mr. Lees if could he pass the word along to them to give the Commission a written update on this project. Mr. Lees agreed to convey this information to the USVLT.

Land use Study - Mr. Pinkham advised that Carol Lyman still has to take a trip to town hall to look for this information. Mr. Pinkham reviewed that this is a study that was prepared by The Audubon Society.

Whitaker Trail Plan/5k Progress – There was no discussion on this agenda item.

Trail Signs/Information Boards – Mr. Pinkham advised he hasn't seen anything in Whitaker yet. Mr. Pinkham advised that he asked Wink Lees if they got the rules and regulations laminated. Mr. Lees advised him they will be getting these out soon. Mr. Pinkham next noted that we also need to replace some other information that has been torn down or weathered.

Whitaker Video – There was no discussion on this agenda item.

Wetland Applications - Mr. Weathers advised that Public Works Director, Paul DegliAngeli, submitted an application to replace a culvert by Tasker Hill. He would like to do this soon. Mr. Weathers next advised that he also spoke to Town Manager, Earl Sires, regarding this and he advised that while the Town is waiting to hear back that we will prepare the area around the culvert.

Mr. Weathers next briefly reviewed an application for a dock on Conway Lake. Mr. Weathers stated this is a standard dock.

Mr. Weathers next discussed the site where Russ Seybold requested two culverts. Mr. Weathers advised that a meeting was held unbeknownst to him and Mr. Seybold made a presentation to the School Board. Mr. Weathers advised the school fell back on letter he (David Weathers) wrote to the State and the School Board voted to not go along with the project. They voted 6-0 based on that letter he had sent. Mr. Weathers next advised that Andy Grieigel also raised concerns of flooding. The engineer that was making the presentation advised that by installing the culverts it would change the elevation by .9 feet. Mr. Weathers stated he doesn't see the point as this does not make any sense. Mr. Weathers thinks that by them taking that vote it basically ends that project and he doesn't think this will be taken any further. Mr. Weathers next stated the DES doesn't want to see any more sites rip rapped. They want to see vegetation and root wads and rip rap only on bottom sections. Further, they never responded back to questions made by him and he thinks the DES will not grant this permit.

Mr. Weathers next reported on a minimum expedited application received by the Town for a property on Justamere Road for an eroding bank. The new landowner put up a house 4-5 years ago. They have submitted an application through Thorne Survey stating there would be minimum impact to the bank. Mr. Weathers advised DES he would not sign this and by advising DES this changes the status of this application and it will no longer be an expedited application. Mr. Weathers next explained what the applicants plan was as written on their application Mr. Weathers next advised that in talking with their Engineer, who is out of Maine, there wasn't going to be any heavy machinery. Mr. Weathers advised he questioned how they would anchor the root wads and they said they hadn't figured this out yet. Mr. Weathers next reported that a couple of the abutters to the applicant's property called the Town with concerns. There is no plan to address the upper vertical portion of the bank. Mr. Weathers also had discussions with the engineer about what they would do to the base. Mr. Weathers further advised that a letter was sent to DES raising the issues and concerns with this application. At this time, we have not heard back from DES. Lastly, Mr.

Weathers pointed out that the house was built a few years ago and now the erosion is getting close to the home.

Rules & Regulations Posting – There was no discussion on this agenda item.

Next Meeting

The next Conservation Committee meeting is scheduled for May 12, 2010.

Adjourn

At 7:11 p.m., **Ms. Kearney moved, seconded by Mr. Briggs, to Mr. Briggs to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Karen J. Hallowell
Recording Secretary