

Candia Conservation Commission  
74 High Street  
Candia, NH 03034  
Unapproved Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, September 20, 2011

Present: Dave Ickes, Dick Snow, Dennis Lewis, Betsy Kruse, Judi Lindsey, Susan Wilderman, Rick Lazott and Ellie Davidson. (Deb Levesque arrived at 7:16)

**REGULAR BUSINESS**

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 by Chair Susan Wilderman. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Minutes of previous meeting: Minutes reviewed and changes were made. In Those Present "showed up" was changed to "arrived". Add "is" after the words 'fluctuations in wetlands', 2<sup>nd</sup> line from end of paragraph beginning ' Guest.' In the Guest paragraph " He suggested the following" should be added after the words "Town website". Spell out Southeast for SE in paragraph "Update on Fitz properties." Under paragraph Wetlands Permit Applications, add 'Doucettes' after 'letter informing...'. Add 'Speaking for Wildlife' after 'Correspondence.' Change 'enthused' to 'enthused' in Budget Update paragraph after 'Discussion'. Under Lamprey River Water Quality Issues, add 'Munn' after Jack and 'being' after ' importance of people'. Under Commission Properties Access paragraph, change 'footbridge' to 'trail work'. B. Kruse moved to accept the minutes as corrected. E. Davidson seconded.

Conservation Land/Easement Acquisition Status: D. Snow reported that Dwayne Critchett is continuing with the conservation easement on his Critchett Road property. He'll be working with Rockingham Conservation District and Jim Franklin as surveyor. The value of the C/E is \$135,000. B. Kruse stated she felt uncomfortable about moving forward without the selectmen's approval. S. Wilderman stated we need an agreement before we can move forward with Purchase & Sale Agreement. The process is not clear and concise. D. Lewis stated it is important to go to the selectmen first. We need to be clear on the board's position and commitment. Also it is important to put all the basic facts out there. We have a willing seller. The property is in the wildlife corridor and water protection areas. We need to ask the board of selectmen for approval earlier than later. S. Wilderman asked why can't boards negotiate together. The next step for D. Critchett is to take his proposal before the board of selectmen. Much discussion took place on these issues. D. Lewis suggested the CCC write a letter to the board of selectmen and ask to be put on the agenda to discuss it at their public meeting with them. D. Critchett should be present at the meeting as well. A verbal agreement should be made to move forward and be put on the record. All parties should be involved from day one. B. Kruse moved to ask D. Snow to approach the board of selectmen, ask for involvement and approval to move forward if D. Critchett agrees to the appraised amount. 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Levesque. Discussion on motion: Dick added that a 60 acre parcel abuts the Critchett property. Motion carried unanimously. D. Snow has applied to DES regarding the Water Supply Land Protection Grant Funds. As it is a rather extensive document, the commissioners agreed that a clear and concise cover letter accompany it so as not to overwhelm the board of selectmen with the huge grant document when they first receive it.

Holly Green had explained previously that this grant money was related to the I-93 widening. The money (\$3 million) is available to protect land within the Massabesic Watershed . This watershed is a priority as it is the water supply for the Manchester area. H. Green had stated that the money is there. The chances are good Candia could

qualify for the funds. It is an extensive grant application and had a close deadline of September 1<sup>st</sup>. Once we know if we are eligible for the grant, we could receive monies to cover C/E or land purchase. The next application deadline is November.

D. Snow reported that Mr. Fitz had approached the commission to state he has 2 pieces of property off Baker Road/Donovan Road. An 8.8 acre and a 7 acre piece. He is interested in selling. If the Federal Government is interested in putting a C/E on a piece of property, they invest in it. The grant will cover purchases of land and placing C/E on them. In addition, there are other properties located around these. It is possible to put C/E on them as well. This includes the Hemlock Drive Town Forest and 30 acres on High Street that touches the Clay Pond Easement. There is a 75% match for all of the costs/match. 9 properties w C/E owned by Candia. B. Kruse stated this was a rather convoluted project. It would help to have a larger map showing how the mentioned properties connect. There was an important question raised as to who initiated the desire to apply for this grant. D. Snow, as selectmen, began the process and was now bringing it before the CCC to receive their input. He would bring it before the board of selectmen.

S. Wilderman expressed deep concerns about continuing as Chair of the Commission at this time. Her work load has increased and she felt she could no longer do justice to the job.

Wetlands Permit Applications: No new wetland permits.

Land Use/Wetlands/Enforcement Issues/Planning Board: Once again J. Lindsey reported about continuing discussion at last planning board meeting about Cell Tower on North Road, near Halls Mill Road. Also, the Brown Road property subdivision has been resubmitted, with no real changes apparent.

Correspondence: Source newsletter about Drinking Water Protection.

Budget Update/Approval of outstanding payments/invoices: E. Davidson mailed out the NRI Maps to Jeff Littleton and asked for reimbursement of \$8.88. B. Kruse motioned and J. Lindsey seconded to approve this reimbursement. The Budget Hearing is this coming Saturday and D. Snow asked if S. Wilderman would be able to attend. She had not been notified and said she would look into this. We would be submitting a baseline budget of \$2,400.

Conservation Commission Website: Jim DiMaggio and Catherine Sangillo are working to update the site. It was suggested to post unapproved minutes as soon as possible.

Lamprey River Watershed Association: This organization would be holding a re-orientation meeting for the new Advisory Committee this coming Saturday. They have excellent maps of Candia to be picked up as well. E. Davidson volunteered to go.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Bear Paw Status:**

Evans Mountain Celebration would be coming up on Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>. An invitation would be coming. There will be a House Party at Judi Lindsey's on Thursday, Oct. 20 to provide an opportunity for people in her neighborhood and the area to come and learn more about Bear Paw and its mission to help landowners protect land. A November Conservation Options Workshop is scheduled. In December there will be a Roundtable Discussion with Karen Bennett.

Forest Management/Management Plans for Town Land/Stewardship:

It was brought up that it would be a terrific educational opportunity for our townspeople to see a logging operation in action. Charlie Moreno is scheduled to do forestry work on the 50 acre Hemlock Drive parcel in Oct./Nov. D. Lewis will look into seeing if we can hold a public walk on this property around this time.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

1. Newsletter – The deadline is approaching. Please give feedback before next meeting in October.
2. Public Event – J. Lindsey's guided walk on the Deerfield Road Town Forest will take place on Sunday, October 9, from 1-3:00 pm. Please come and support the walk with your presence and snacks. Feedback was gathered to refine the poster, map and trail guide.

Motion to adjourn by S. Wilderman. 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Lewis. All in favor.  
Meeting adjourned at 9:05.

Respectfully submitted by Judi Lindsey, acting secretary for the evening.