



**Town of Candia**  
**Conservation Commission**  
**74 High Street**  
**Candia, New Hampshire**  
**03034**

**March 20, 2012 Meeting Minutes (Approved)**

**Present:** Ellie Davidson, Dave Ickes, Betsy Kruse, Deb Levesque, Dennis Lewis, Judi Lindsey, Mimi Alberu (Alt), Rick Lazott (Alt.), Dick Snow (Alt.)

**Guests:** Caroline & Ron Flanagan (Hemlock Dr.), Mark Pepper, Mike Pouliot

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chair Betsy Kruse, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Regular Business**

1. Minutes of previous meetings (February 21, 2012)

Dick Snow noted that "Council" on page two should be "Counsel." Judi Lindsey made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Deb Levesque. The motion carried with five in favor and one abstention.

2. Conservation Land/Easements Acquisition Status

WRP grant – update

The warrant article failed, but by a very close vote (519 to 581), indicating considerable support from Town residents. Susan Wilderman suggested a short notice in the local papers thanking supporters. Mimi Alberu volunteered to write this notice. Mr. Flanagan inquired about the provenance of the Hemlock Drive Town Forest. Dennis Lewis responded that the land was acquired by the Town via tax deed in the 60s. The property was designated as a Town Forest by a subsequent Town Meeting vote. Mrs. Flanagan inquired why those who voted against the warrant article would be opposed to the conservation easement on the property. Rick Lazotte responded that he opposed the easement because he didn't like the idea of a third party monitoring the property, and he thought future attempts to develop the property would be unsuccessful. Mrs. Flanagan asked if all it would take was another Town vote to sell the property to a developer, and Chair Betsy Kruse confirmed that this was correct. Mr. Flanagan asked whether there was anything else the Commission could do. The Commission can pursue Aquatic Resource Mitigation (ARM) grants, and the Southeast Land Trust can still apply for eligibility at the WRP next grant round on June 1<sup>st</sup>. However, the consensus of the Commission was

to table this issue for now. Guest Mike Pouliot mentioned that there are funds available for I-93 widening impacting wetland functions and values, for mitigation in-lieu-of-fee by protecting wetlands with similar functions and values. He noted that the money would be used elsewhere, most likely in the North Country, if southern towns failed to act quickly. Mike agreed to work with Dick Snow, Ellie Davidson, and Mimi Alberu as a subcommittee to research this opportunity.

Critchett project update – appraisal and P&S agreement are done; perimeter survey and subdivision work are being performed by Jim Franklin. Easement language being worked on with Bart Mayer.

Pepper project update – Jim Franklin, Holden Engineering, and T.F. Moran have submitted letters of interest for the survey work. Dick Snow will send an RFP to the three, with response due by the next Commission meeting (4/17).

Bowman & Sieminski – no action at this time. Dennis Lewis suggested not listing individual names of property owners on future agenda unless there is specific action being taken.

3. Wetlands Permit Applications – No applications at this time.
4. Land Use/Wetlands/Enforcement Issues/Planning Board – The Planning Board recently inquired whether the Conservation Commission has any budgeted funds they could use to share the cost of a map rack. Mary Girard mentioned she saw some at Staples ranging in price from \$60 to \$200. There is no money in the budget for such an item. Judi Lindsey volunteered to research map racks available.
5. Correspondence – Ellie Davidson reported several items being received:
  - a. timber yield tax reports and invoices from Charlie Moreno for Hemlock Town Forest
  - b. letter from DES announcing annual drinking water source protection workshop May 2<sup>nd</sup> in Concord
  - c. notice of a workshop in Nashua on municipal turf and grounds
  - d. solicitation from a company in Vermont regarding water supply protection
  - e. report from Bear Paw regarding inspections on the easements they hold in Candia; no violations or problems
  - f. Saving Special Places information
6. Budget Update/Approval of outstanding payments/invoices – Judi Lindsey moved to pay \$30 to Mimi Alberu for administrative support in February; Ellie Davidson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Mimi Alberu will give Dick Snow an invoice.
7. Conservation Commission Website – Dick Snow would like to have some videos posted to the site; he will contact Jim Dimaggio. Betsy also suggested we should also upload copies of conservation easements to the site. Dick Snow will try to get electronic copies of all the easements in the town.
8. Lamprey River Water Quality Initiatives – Dick Snow is a member of the Watershed Association Board of Directors and a member of the Advisory Committee. The latter is established under statute when portions of a river are put into the river's management program. There are portions in Candia in the Lamprey's management program. Any project that is within a quarter mile of either side of the river needs to be reviewed by the Advisory Committee and in some cases by the Conservation Commission. We will have responsibility for reviewing project plans for alteration of terrain within the corridor and for accomplishing this in a reasonably short period of time. Dick Snow will continue to report on issues that will need to be addressed at the local level.

## Old Business

9. Bear-Paw Status Report – upcoming events – Betsy Kruse reported that newsletter will be coming out shortly; future events are not scheduled until May.
10. Forest Management / Plans for Town Land / Stewardship – the Hemlock Drive project is complete. Dennis Lewis suggested we start to think about another project before the next meeting. A number of candidates were mentioned, including the conservation area on New Boston Road. Judi Lindsey also suggested having Charlie Moreno lead a community walk in the Hemlock Drive Town Forest. Dennis Lewis volunteered to follow up with him about a potential date in May. Dennis Lewis also mentioned that he needs to install a gate there and requested that we think about what kind.

## Other Business

11. CIP projects to recommend to Sharon Robichaud – one idea that received support was trail construction and maintenance.
12. NRI – Susan Wilderman has agreed to represent the Conservation Commission at the Planning Board public hearing on 3/21 regarding acceptance of the NRI as part of the Master Plan.
13. *Saving Special Places* conference April 14 – Ellie Davidson, Dick Snow and Judi Lindsey are attending.
14. There was no interest in attending the watershed conference on 3/23 in Plymouth.
15. Scenic Byways – Ellie Davidson again requested additional ideas to submit. So far she has the following:

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| Sam Walter Foss House      | Old barn foundation at the end of Podunk Road |
| Fitts Museum               | New Boston, South, and Crowley Roads          |
| Deerfield Road Town Forest |   |
16. Commission member terms – Ellie Davidson’s, Deb Levesque’s and Dick Snow’s terms are up for renewal. If they are interested in continuing they need to submit a letter of interest to Betsy Kruse. Betsy Kruse also reminded those present that her six-month interim chairmanship ends in May and urged members to think about future leadership.
17. Goals and Objectives – a discussion was held in which some items were deleted and others were promoted or demoted in priority. Betsy Kruse agreed to update the draft and distribute to the membership. (See attached.) Any final revisions will be made at the April meeting.

Judi Lindsey moved to adjourn at 9:00pm, seconded by Dave Ickes. Motion passed unanimously. Next meeting of the CCC is on April 17, 2012 at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mimi Alberu*

Mimi Alberu

Candia Conservation Commission Clerk