

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

## August 21, 2012 Meeting Minutes (Approved)

Present: Ellie Davidson, Betsy Kruse, Dave Ickes, Dennis Lewis, Judi Lindsey, Mimi Alberu (Alt.), Dick Snow (Alt.) Absent: Susan Wilderman, Deb Levesque.Guests: Al Hall

Alternate Dick Snow was seated as a full member.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Chair Betsy Kruse, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **Regular Business**

1. Minutes of previous meeting (July 17, 2012): Chair Betsy Kruse wanted to clarify a statement in the first paragraph. "Chair Betsy Kruse questioned whether development rights were extinguished by the easements. There appeared to be some ambiguity regarding this issue." After some discussion the statement was changed to "There was a discussion about how a conservation easement extinguishes development rights." Chair Betsy Kruse referred to Item 6 on page 2 which states that Dick made two motions. They have had discussions about whether or not alternates are allowed to make motions and she had not officially appointed an alternate to sit in for whoever wasn't there. She thought she solicited a mover that was not an alternate. Judi Lindsey said she made the motions. Chair Betsy Kruse officially asked Dick Snow to be a full member for this evenings meeting. It was noted that Judi Lindsey moved on both motions, Dennis Lewis seconded and both motions passed. Next Chair Betsy Kruse referred to Item 9 on page 2. The first change was that the round table is in November. She would like the second sentence to say "A possible venue will be the former Griffinbrook property. The topic

will focus on ways local businesses, town government, and Bear-Paw can collaborate on mutual issues." Chair Betsy Kruse referred to Item 9 on page 2. She changed the comment "needs to be on the agenda for the next BOS meeting" to "SNHCP was trying to get on the BOS agenda." She referred to Item 11 on page 2. The sentence was changed to "We had no official notice of the Old Home Day and other than Dick's announcement knew nothing about this event. Dick Snow said there would be free spots for the town organizations, Bear-Paw, and 3 water shed associations. Because we only meet once a month and did not feel we had time to prepare, the consensus was not to participate this year." Judi Lindsey motioned to approve the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Ellie Davidson and passed unanimously.

- 2. Conservation Land/Easement(s) Acquisition Status Critchett & Pepper projects: Dick Snow said the closings are going to take place. The Board of Selectmen will be signing off on them on August 27<sup>th</sup>. The Conservation Commission will be signing soon after that. It will hopefully be the day after the Selectmen's meeting. The papers will have already gone out to the grantees and the grantor. Once they are signed the deeds will be recorded. He thought RCCD would be doing the recording. Once this is done they will get copies of all of the paperwork. Chair Betsy Kruse clarified there won't be a time when all of those parties get together. She mentioned that Dick Snow indicated there was a rush to do this by the end of the month. Dick Snow explained there is only 31 days to get the subdivision done for the Critchett property or the Planning Board could revoke the subdivision. The deadline is the end of August. Chair Betsy Kruse asked if they would like to arrange some kind of acknowledgement once this is completed. Judi Lindsey asked if she was talking about taking a picture in front of the town hall like when she did her easement. Chair Betsy Kruse thought that was a great idea. Dick Snow thought they should have pictures of the properties to somehow demonstrate what it is and show the wildlife corridors Deerfield all the way down to the Lamprey River. There was further discussion on the acknowledgment. Chair Betsy Kruse asked if Dick Snow could ask the landowners if they would be interested in a photo op.
- 3. Wetlands Permit Applications: Ellie Davidson said she didn't have an application, but she had a copy of a letter sent to Kevin Dumont on July 24<sup>th</sup>. Apparently he hasn't done something he was supposed to do and DES is fining him \$6,000. DES is asking him for a certified receipt (from the Rockingham County of Deeds) of the recorded easement. Dick Snow said he would like to talk to Kevin Dumont about this. He explained there never was a management plan done, therefore there was never a conservation easement and he doesn't know who the conservation easement holder was supposed to be.
- 4. Land Use/Wetlands/Enforcement Issues/Planning Board Maps into map rack: Dennis Lewis noted there was a continuance on the Giles subdivision on Lane Road. He

mentioned he was hauling road fill to the recycling center and it was questioned at a Selectmen's meeting that it was too close to the wetlands. He checked it out the next day it was nowhere near the wetlands, so the issue was resolved. Dick Snow said at the last ZRRC meeting Mr. Komisarek and Mr. Cole presented a plan for the center of Candia and all of the things that should happen to that land. They had suggestions on how to change the Zoning regulations to allow this to happen. He mentioned that Mr. Komisarek had some good ideas. Chair Betsy Kruse asked Judi Lindsey to tell the Planning Board that they only used 6 hangers and ask them to pick out some maps. She thought some from the open space plan would be good. Dick Snow thought they should hang maps that are used more frequently.

- 5. Correspondence: Chair Betsy Kruse received a Water Supply Land Protection Grant Program letter. They are accepting applications for fall 2012 for the protection of the drinking water supply. She mentioned they do have land in the Massabesic Water shed and various 93 corridor communities. This is the same grant the Dick Snow has been working on. If he can't put it in September, he will be putting in eligibility paperwork if he can get someone to back it up. Chair Betsy Kruse said she relieved a note for the LGC's Law Lecture series. There are 3 different lectures and they are offering them on different dates at 2 or 3 different locations. Ellie Davidson had the latest drought information from the New Hampshire Drinking Water Source Protection program.
- 6. Budget Update/ Approval of outstanding payments/ invoices: Dick Snow entertained a motion to authorize the payment of Mimi's July administrative costs. Judi Lindsey motioned to authorize the payment of Mimi Alberu's July administrative costs. The motion was seconded by Dave Ickes and passed unanimously. Ellie Davidson had three invoices from Jim Franklin. One for \$270.00 for the Critchett Road property, a balance of \$375.00 and \$6,000 on the Pepper property. Dick Snow asked to see the invoices, because some of them may have already been paid. Betsy Kruse asked if they had authorized the payment ahead of time. Dave Ickes moved to pay the invoices if they have not already been paid. The motion was seconded by Judi Lindsey and passed unanimously.
- 7. Conservation Commission Website (CE's, NRI, OSP posted?): Chair Betsy Kruse asked if these items have been put on the website – the conservation easements, the NRI, or the open space plan. Mimi Alberu noted the last time she was on the website she didn't see them and that was about a month ago. Dick Snow said he would check into this.
- 8. Lamprey River Water Quality Initiatives: Dick Snow said the Lamprey River Water Shed Association, the Lamprey River Advisory Committee; the South East Water Shed Alliance will all be under one tent at Old Home Day. He encouraged everyone to stop

by. The Lamprey River Advisory Committee was considering buying a facility in Lee to use as their center location for headquarters. They were going to include the Lamprey River Water Shed association and it fell through. They decided the house wasn't worth it, the cost was a lot, and the conservation money would be coming out of a federal fund. The South East Land Trust who was holding that fund suggested that conservation value wasn't significant enough to be able to justify the cost of purchasing the facility. There has been considerable discussion that has been taking place on the South East Water Shed Alliance. The Coalition which is a group of waste water treatment plants in the coastal area are being required to go to a higher standard of water purification in order to mitigate the degradation of Great Bay Estuary. The Portsmouth Water Treatment Plant has been given a temporary 8 instead of 3, which is a looser standard. The Coalition has been sued by CLF (Conservation Law Foundation). There has been significant discussion about the South East Water Shed Alliance acting as a mediator or a propagator of scientific review of the criteria that is being used to measure the nitrate for degradation of the Great Bay Estuary. The Coalition maintains that they do not have the scientific evidence that will allow them to successfully correlate. The significance to us is that Waste Water Treatment Plants are 30% of the problem and the other 70% are us. Mimi Alberu clarified that the percentages were degradation. Dick Snow replied yes. This means that we are in line to get MS4's which is storm water management permits or DES will come down and say that you can't put anymore septic systems in your town. There was some further discussion about storm water drainage.

### **Old Business**

- Bear-Paw Status Report Roundtable, Suncook River walk: Chair Betsy Kruse noted that Roundtable will be held November 8<sup>th</sup>. Lisa Clark who lives on Podunk Road is going to lead with Eric Orff who is a former Fish and Game person. There will be a trip to Suncook River and Lisa will be doing a workshop on plaster casting foot prints. There is no fee, but you do need to register so they know how many supplies to bring. On the 26<sup>th</sup> of September Lisa is going to teach how to use Twitter. This will be held right before the Bear Paw meeting. There is a walk on the Isinglass River on the 20<sup>th</sup> of October and Phil Ausher is leading this. The Bear Paw auction is the 10<sup>th</sup> of December. They are trying to raise enough money to keep Phil on as our land protection specialist without having to pay for him with grant money.
- 2. Forest Management/Plans for Town Land/Stewardship: Dennis Lewis noted he had nothing for this month.

### **Other Business**

- Outreach fall walk to Kinnicum? Amphibian crossing signs?: Chair Betsy Kruse mentioned that Dick Weeks agreed to do a walk to Kinnicum and he suggested sometime in the fall. She asked the Commission if they would like to schedule something and when. After some discussion they decided on Sunday October 14<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon. Chair Betsy Kruse asked about the Amphibian crossing signs. Judi Lindsey thought that Michael Pouliout was checking into this and possibly making signs. Mimi Alberu thought he wasn't printing signs because it's too expensive. They talked about handmade signs and getting the Boy Scouts involved. Dennis Lewis noted that he saw a sign in one town that said "Wildlife Crossing Ahead". He noted this would cover everything. There was some discussion on where the signs should go (New Boston, Merrill Road, Brown Road) and if they would make them or purchase them. Dennis Lewis suggested purchasing signs from Work Safe in Bow or N.E. Barricade in New Market. Chair Betsy Kruse asked if he could get some pricing. Dennis Lewis said he would get some pricing.
- 2. Upper Lamprey Scenic Byway update: Ellie Davidson noted that she had missed the meeting on August 8<sup>th</sup>. The next meeting will be October 2nd. It was noted that David Preece came to the Selectmen's meeting to explain the Upper Lamprey Scenic Byway project. Chair Betsy Kruse felt people in the audience were asking very helpful questions which pointed out some of the benefits of the project. As a result the Board seemed understanding and accepting of the project. Dick Snow felt if the Board was asked to approve the project they would.
- 3. Bill Nichols' status: Chair Betsy Kruse noted that Bill Nichols' emailed her, but his basic message is that he didn't see himself available enough to come to the meetings even as an alternate. Dick Snow thought it was beneficial to having him as an alternate. There is no value to having him leave and they can have an unlimited amount of alternates. He would like him to stay. Mimi Alberu asked if they can have an advisory member. Dick Snow said they don't have to change his status there is no requirement for what the alternates do. Ellie Davidson said he has to agree to stay on. It was the consensus of the Commission to encourage Bill Nichols' to stay on as an alternate. Chair Betsy Kruse said she would be in touch with Bill.
- 4. Newsletter: Chair Betsy Kruse asked if the Commission would like to send out a newsletter with the Boy Scout packet next March. She is willing to work on it, but they need to talk about some specifics. She mentioned the Critchett and Pepper easements. Dick Snow said the information about the water supply protection grants should go in the newsletter. Chair Betsy Kruse replied unless they have a specific plan it shouldn't go in there. Judi Lindsey thought they should include the Hemlock Drive forest walk and the Kinnicum Pond walk with Dick Weeks. Dennis Lewis noted there should be nothing

controversial in it. There were some further suggestions on what should go in the newsletter.

- 5. Planning Board: Dick Snow mentioned there was discussion about Storm Water ordinances at the ZRRC meeting. He forward information from South East Water Shed Alliance to the Planning Board Chairman. They are trying to get the entire region together to work on an ordinance.
- 6. Lamprey River Water Shed Association: They are looking to do a barge down the Lamprey River to the Great Bay Estuaries. Their annual meeting will be in September or October.
- 7. Budget: Dick Snow said he is putting together a draft budget and what would the Commission like to do. There was some discussion about the budget. Dick Snow asked if they suggested putting in the same amount as last. It was the consensus of the Commission to put in the same budget as last year.

Respectfully submitted, Andria Hansen (Transcribed by Mimi Alberu's notes and recorder)