



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

November 20, 2012 Meeting Minutes (Approved)

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

Guest: Jim Dimaggio

Meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Chair Betsy Kruse, followed by the pledge of allegiance. Dick Snow was seated as a regular member.

Acknowledgement of Critchett and Pepper easements.

Dick Snow will try to coordinate this for the December meeting; Judi Lindsey will be present to take photos.

Regular Business

1. Chair Betsy Kruse opted to discuss the Commission Web site (see item 8 below) first since Jim Dimaggio was present.
2. Minutes of previous meetings (October 16, 2012) – Dick Snow moved to accept the minutes as presented; Dennis Lewis seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
3. Conservation Land/Easement(s) Acquisition Status – Liquid Planet CE

Dick Snow talked to Lenny Lord (RCCC) at the NHACC conference, and thinks he would be a good contact for Kevin Dumont to work with; RCCC may be approaching CCC to help with the transaction costs. Also there is a piece of land on the Candia tax map currently owned by Manchester Water Works that juts out into the Hemlock Drive Town Forest, separated by the highway from a portion in Auburn. Dick Snow suggested it might be a good candidate for a land swap or acquisition.

4. Wetlands Permit Applications –

- Letter to Robert Schleck on Baker Road, giving him permission to do forestry work;
- Copy of Socha Dam wetlands permit application. CCC doesn't have any immediate concerns; the dam needs to be repaired. Dennis Lewis reviewed the application and it appears to be all in order; the ponds will remain.

5. Land Use/Wetlands/Enforcement Issues/Planning Board – the Brown Road decision (Thompson) has been appealed to the NH Supreme Court.
6. Correspondence –
 - DES Supply Lines newsletter
 - Bear Paw PawPrint newsletter
 - Ad for comic strip promoting conservation commissions
 - Email received on the Candia Website; a Biology major at UNH is looking for historic water usage data. Susan Wilderman suggested putting the student in touch with Diane Philbrick, who has written about mills.
7. Budget Update/Approval of outstanding payments/invoices/Request for \$4,679.20 in legal reimbursements/CE budget update –
 - Invoice from Cheryl Eastman for legal expenses for the Critchett and Pepper easements; Dick Snow requested a motion to reimburse the Town for this item; Susan Wilderman moved to reimburse the Town, seconded by Dennis Lewis (contingent on making sure we haven't already paid some of these expenses); the motion passed unanimously;
 - Invoice from BearPaw for \$100 dues; Dick Snow moved to approve \$100, seconded by Ellie Davidson, Betsy Kruse recused; the motion passed;
 - DickSnow moved to approve \$100 dues for Lamprey River Water Shed Association, Ellie Davidson seconded; Dennis Lewis asked if we had the funds (yes); the motion passed unanimously;
 - Dick Snow moved to pay Mimi Alberu \$49.44 for October admin duties, Deb Levesque seconded; the motion passed unanimously;
 - Dick Snow moved to reimburse Mimi Alberu \$45, and himself \$45 plus mileage for attending the NHACC annual meeting, Susan Wilderman seconded; the motion passed unanimously.
8. Conservation Commission Website (CE's, NRI, OSP, goals/objectives posted)

Jim Dimaggio reported on the status of the Web site. He said he had uploaded videos but he requires digital copies of documents such as the NRI (Natural Resources Inventory). Susan Wilderman will forward a copy of the NRI to Jim. He also mentioned the option of creating a database for wildlife sightings with a form that users can fill out. Jim also asked if we had a plan for the 250th anniversary for the Web site. Betsy Kruse suggested we could acknowledge the anniversary in January and then decide what the Commission wants to do. Betsy requested input for what CCC can do to get involved. Susan suggested re-enacting the walk to Kinnicum from Eaton history. Talk about changes from 1763 to the present.

9. Lamprey River Water Quality Initiatives

Ellie Davidson reported on a meeting she attended where a guest speaker from DES spoke about testing wells for arsenic. Dick Snow spoke about SE Watershed Alliance's concern about storm water runoff; Candia is at the headwater for 4 or 5 water systems that flow down to the estuary. Durham has requested a letter of recommendation to obtain a grant to explore improving the health of either the Exeter or the Oyster rivers. Candia is not yet an MS4 community but there are two sites in Candia that may be impacted in the future. These are Hook Road and Bean Island residential areas that are small so we can probably get an exemption. Dennis Lewis will bring relevant information to the next meeting.

Old Business

1. Bear-Paw Status Report – Roundtable, auction, annual mtg.

Dan will send out more information about the Dec. 6th meeting regarding collaboration on projects; the annual meeting is on Jan 26th with speaker Mary Howland; the newsletter lists other activities.

2. Forest Management / Plans for Town Land / Stewardship

There was some wind damage on Town lands from hurricane Sandy; Dennis Lewis will walk various sites to determine the extent. Dick Snow moved to ask Charlie Moreno to write a management plan for the Hemlock Town Forest, Deb Levesque seconded; the motion passed unanimously. Dick Snow reminded the Commission that the signs for the Town forests need to be put up. We need at least ten posts for the signs. Dennis Lewis will bring a cost for the posts to the next meeting.

Other Business

1. Outreach, Amphibian crossing signs –Susan Wilderman will undertake this a project with her Winter Ecology class.
2. SELTNH workshop offer – No further action at this time.
3. Upper Lamprey Scenic Byway update – No update at this time.
4. Newsletter CE article, Note from the Chair – There is one more article due from Dick Snow, regarding the Pepper and Critchett easements. There followed a discussion with suggestions for edits to the newsletter draft.
5. Warrant Article – No information at this time.
6. CIP representative from CCC – Mimi Alberu volunteered to serve as representative. Dick Snow will notify her when meetings start.
7. Nov 3rd NHACC Conference reports – Dick Snow and Mimi Alberu reported on various workshops they attended. These included stormwater solutions, restoring rivers and streams/natural channel design and dam removal, and findings and recommendations from the NH Water Sustainability Commission.

Chair Betsy Kruse requested a motion to adjourn; Ellie Davidson moved to adjourn at 8:37 pm, seconded by Susan Wilderman.

Respectfully submitted,

Mimi Alberu

Mimi Alberu
Conservation Commission Clerk