

Candia Conservation Commission

Approved

Public Hearing and Meeting Minutes – December 15, 2009

Present: Chair Susan Wilderman, Betsy Kruse, Judi Lindsey, Dennis Lewis, Richard Snow, Ellie Davidson and Alternate Dave Ickes. Guests: Mark West from Bear-Paw
Alternate member D. Ickes was formally seated in place of absent member D. Levesque.

Meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m.

Public Hearing *on purchase of interest in real property with a conservation easement on the Gagne properties identified as Map 404 Lots 83 & 84:* Chair Wilderman made a statement regarding the importance of proper conservation management and the Master Plan goals concerning the Conservation Commission. The Gagne property is within the Clay Pond Watershed and consists of nearly 9 acres on the Candia/Hooksett border. This is part of a larger project occurring in Hooksett and is part of an 1800 acre unfragmented parcel. Preservation of this property would coincide with the Candia Master Plan goals. The holder of the easement would be Bear-Paw Regional Greenways with LCHP holding executory interest in the property. Mark West from Bear-Paw commented that he completed a study of this land and found it includes a variety of high value uplands and wetlands and considers it a real gem of a spot with lots of conservation value. The majority of the land is considered the highest ranking habitat in the state of NH. There was no input from the public.

D. Ickes motioned for the Conservation Commission to cover the transaction cost associated with the Gagne property, not to exceed \$5,000.00, seconded by E. Davidson. All were in favor with three abstentions by B. Kruse, J. Lindsey and D. Snow. Motion carried.

D. Ickes motioned for the Conservation Commission to recommend to the BOS that they act upon the easement language dated Dec 15, 2009 for the transaction of the easement, seconded by E. Davidson. All were in favor with three abstentions by B. Kruse, J. Lindsey and D. Snow. Motion carried.

Regular Business

Minutes of November 17, 2009 were reviewed. J. Lindsey motioned to accept minutes as written, seconded by B. Kruse. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Wetlands Permit Applications – There were no new applications.

Land Use, Wetlands, Enforcement Issues, Planning Board – J. Lindsey reported that the Sander subdivision and the zoning amendments are on the agenda for the next Planning Board meeting. J. Lindsey will request a copy of the Cost of Community Services for the CCC and S. Wilderman will inquire at the Land Use office the location of the build out maps created by SNHPC.

Correspondence – Nothing new to report

Budget Update/Approval of Outstanding Payments/Invoices – **D. Snow motioned** to pay Moosewood Ecological \$600 for the tasks that have been completed with the monies to come from Conservation Fund, seconded by J. Lindsey. All were in favor. Motion carried.

D Snow motioned to pay NHACC annual dues of \$250, seconded by B. Kruse. All were in favor. Motion carried. **D Snow motioned** to pay Lamprey Watershed Association annual dues of \$100, seconded by B. Kruse. All were in favor with one abstention by D. Snow. Motion carried. **D. Snow motioned** to pay Bear-Paw Regional Greenways annual dues of \$100, seconded by E. Davidson. All were in favor with two abstentions by J. Lindsey and B. Kruse. Motion carried.

The 2009 Budget was reviewed. The commission came in under budget with a year-end balance of \$.91. The cost of printing the newsletter for \$300 was discussed. The cost difference between printing in black and white and color will be donated by a private donor.

D. Snow motioned that the Commission pay J. Miele a \$225 stipend for enhancing the communication capabilities of the Conservation Commission, seconded by J. Lindsey. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Conservation Commission Website – Nothing new to report.

Lamprey River Watershed Association – Nothing new to report.

Old Business

Conservation Land/Easement(s) Acquisition Status –

- The Conservation Easement process was presented to the Board of Selectmen by Chair Wilderman. D. Snow will now contact the Siemenski family regarding an easement.
- Rand Property on High Street: The Commission needs to get an agreement from the Rands allowing the appraisal of their property to be conducted. Other details need to be worked out. This should be done before 1.15.10.
- D. Snow will contact Charlie Bowman and Richard Gilbert regarding possible easements.

Bear-Paw Status Report – B. Kruse reported:

- The Annual Meeting is coming up
- A snowshoe hike on the Clay Pond Project is being planned for late January

Forest Management Activities –

- D. Lewis re-installed the sign on Flint Road.
- It was decided to put information in the kiosk located on the Deerfield Road property. This will include a map of the trails, information about property, and the “Carry In Carry Out” policy.

Commission Properties Access Planning and Requests – There was nothing new to report.

Open Space Subcommittee – J. Lindsey reported the newsletter is finalized. B. Kruse will arrange with D. Snow to get a copy to J. Miele and to the printer.

Prime Wetlands Study/NRI – S. Wilderman will contact Jeff and inquire about hiring students to work on finding grants for Phase II of the project.

Other Business:

- Recent wildlife sightings included two moose and a red fox
- J. Lindsey showed a sample of a cork board display unit. Approximate cost of making one of these is \$60. Will discuss further in January.
- D. Snow invited Ben Lewis to join the Conservation Commission

J. Lindsey motioned to adjourn at 8:08, seconded by E. Davidson. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted
Pat Larkin - Conservation Commission Secretary