



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

January 17, 2012 Meeting Minutes (Unapproved)

Present: Ellie Davidson, Betsy Kruse, Dave Ickes, Deb Levesque, Judi Lindsey, Dick Snow, Mimi Alberu.

Guests: Fitz, Ed Fowler, Fletcher Perkins, Amanda Soares.

Absent: Jim DiMaggio, Rick Lazott, Dennis Lewis, Susan Wilderman.

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

WSP Grant Informational Hearing – 7:00 pm Presentation

Judi Lindsey and Dick Snow displayed a PowerPoint presentation explaining a proposed grant application to the federal Water Supply Protection Program for purchase and protection of two pieces of land in the Massabesic Watershed. The presentation also described the proposed conservation easement on the Hemlock Drive Town Forest, which would then provide the monetary value of the development rights as matching funds for the grant. There followed a discussion during which the presenters responded to questions from guests present.

Betsy Kruse made the point that the Hemlock Town Forest is not located on an arterial road, and is therefore not likely to be desirable for development.

Fletcher Perkins asked who owns the railroad bed adjacent to the Fitz properties. Dick Snow responded that different portions are owned by private landowners. Ed Fowler added that if the land is not posted the public does not have to obtain permission to walk on the property. Mr. Fitz stated that he has only observed foot traffic and horses. Mr. Perkins inquired what the value of the Fitz properties is. Dick Snow replied that the properties are currently being appraised.

A logging operation has just been completed in the Town Forest; the logger is paying the timber tax so the tax revenue will go to the Town's General Fund.

Selectman Soares brought up the issue of whether the Board of Selectmen would have to agree to allow the Commission to apply for and administer the grant even if the Town voted to support the Warrant Article. Dick Snow replied that this was not his interpretation. Soares will follow up. Judi Lindsey thanked guests for attending the meeting. The Commission continued with the business portion of the meeting at 7:35 pm.

Regular Business

1. WSP grant Warrant Article – feedback about PowerPoint in preparation for presentation at Deliberative Session. Betsy Kruse asked the group to discuss the presentation first. Dick Snow pointed out that by the deliberative session and the public hearing in February we would probably have appraisal numbers on the properties. Dick and Judi will take Betsy’s comments and make modifications to the presentation. She stressed again that it is important to stress that the properties being considered for protection are not conducive for development. She also wanted to address the issue of potential tax revenues from logging. Ellie Davidson asked if the land abutting the Fitz properties was in danger of being developed. Betsy Kruse replied that if someone put in a road or a subdevelopment that could certainly be the case. Dave Ickes questioned the calculation for determining the 25/75% split for the grant and the match. He noted that the development rights had to be valued at \$195K, not \$65K. Betsy Kruse noted that if necessary any additional moneys can come from the Conservation Fund.
2. Minutes of previous meeting (December 20, 2011) – The following changes were made prior to accepting the minutes of the December 20th meeting:
 - Item 3, Regular Business, Acquisition Status, Paragraph 3 – delete sentence “She also didn’t think...that she should.”
 - Item 4 – Critchett/Pepper Projects Update – 2nd sentence should read “He said he would submit an invoice for Marsha Beecy’s appraisal.”
 - Item 5, Wetlands Permit Applications – replace sentence “J. Lindsey reported...” with “There were no permit applications.”
 - Item 9, Lamprey River Watershed Assoc. Water Quality Initiative – replace first sentence with “S. Wilderman explained that there is concern about municipal sewage in the coastal watershed.”
 - Item 1, Other Business, Newsletter – first sentence; replace “minimize” with “maximize.”

Judi Lindsey moved to accept the minutes as amended, seconded by Deb Levesque. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Conservation Land/Easement(s) Acquisition Status update on project
 - Critchett project update – Dick Snow is working with RCCD and Mr. Critchett, and talking with Mr. Critchett and Jim Franklin about better plot plans for the location of the subdivisions and the excluded areas. Working with Mr. Critchett to more clearly define the reserved rights. Tracey Degnan informed him RCCD doesn’t need to do a site walk; their Board has already approved acceptance of the project.
 - Pepper project update - Marsha Beecy is working on an appraisal for this property.

- At this point Betsy Kruse requested to return to the issue of a public hearing for the Warrant Article. The question was why we would need to take a vote at the public hearing. Betsy summarized the issue: if we call the next meeting a hearing, if for some unknown reason we have to take a vote on spending money, we have the authority to do so because it is a public hearing; if we call it another informational presentation we would not have the authority to take a vote on spending conservation funds on this kind of a project.
4. Wetlands Permit Applications – there were no permit applications.
 5. Land Use/Wetlands/Enforcement Issues/Planning Board – Judi Lindsey stated that Thompson is coming back Wednesday Feb. 15th with his application for development on Brown Road. Nothing has changed except the water level.
 6. Correspondence – Ellie Davidson noted a letter from Greg Jones with his formal resignation and final invoice for three hours. Also postcards from Bear Paw for the annual meeting on the 28th. Betsy Kruse requested a motion to pay Greg Jones for his final three hours at \$12/hr. Judi Lindsey moved to pay the invoice, Deb Levesque seconded. The motion passed unanimously. In addition, Dick Snow presented an invoice from Mimi Alberu for 4.25 hrs. Betsy requested a motion to pay the invoice. Judi Lindsey moved to pay the invoice, Deb Levesque seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
 7. Budget Update/Approval of outstanding payments/invoices – no additional outstanding invoices.
 8. Conservation Commission Website – Betsy asked whether the PowerPoint presentation can be uploaded to the Website. Dick Snow will call Jim DiMaggio since he was not present at the meeting.
 9. Lamprey River Watershed Association – this should be called Water Quality Initiatives. Dick Snow we will be affected because sewers are coming.

Old Business

1. Bear-Paw Status Report – Judi Lindsey mentioned that the Annual Meeting will be held at Coe Brown Academy on Jan. 28th. Betsy mentioned that those with a Bear Paw Visa get in free.
2. Forest Management / Plans for Town Land / Stewardship – Dennis Lewis was not present at the meeting. Dick Snow stated that the selective cutting lumber operation has been completed. Dick walked the area afterward; there appears to be more than adequate material for brush piles for small wildlife. Rick Lazott is in charge of overseeing Scouts to build brush piles.

Other Business

1. Newsletter – Betsy Kruse handed out a revised version, including a picture of Kinnicum Pond on the reverse side; she still needs a final sentence. Dick Snow thinks it should be contact information for the CCC. Betsy noticed this was missing from this version although it was in

prior versions. Ellie suggested deleting redundant “opportunity” and noted that Massabesic was spelled wrong in the second paragraph under the photo of Kinnicum Pond. Dick Snow suggested deleting the words “citizen’s petitioned” from the first paragraph under Warrant Article. We don’t know the Warrant Article number yet.

2. NRI – Betsy Kruse said the document needs to be formally presented to the Planning Board as the update to the Natural Resources chapter of the Master Plan. She asked if there was any reason we shouldn’t move forward with this. She will email a copy to the Planning Board and ask to get on the agenda for one of their meetings.
3. CIP – Betsy Kruse was invited to ask the CCC whether there’s anything we want to include in the CIP update. She wrote to Aaron Lachance, the manager of the project; she has emailed his response to CCC members. It lists particular projects that could be included. Sharon Robichaud is asking for input by the end of February, but this is a rather arbitrary deadline that can probably be extended. We don’t have any conservation items in the current CIP because we’ve never been asked for input before. Dick Snow said the only thing he could think of is to ask for capital funds to be set aside for future conservation easements. Betsy asked the group to consider the options and think about specific items we might want included, for example, a prime wetlands inventory. We will discuss these at the next meeting.
4. Next month’s meeting is February 21st. We need to have the newsletter ready to go by then; it has to be to the Scouts by the 23rd. Betsy will distribute a final version. She will not be present at the meeting. Judi Lindsey and Deb Levesque agreed to run the meeting in her absence.
5. Barry Camp, Berlin NH – Judi Lindsey asked whether we could sponsor a scholarship for full or partial cost of attending the camp for a local young person.

Chair Betsy Kruse requested a motion to adjourn. Judi Lindsey moved to adjourn, seconded by Ellie Davidson. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mimi Alberu
Conservation Commission Clerk