

Candia Conservation Commission

APPROVED

Meeting Minutes - October 17, 2006

The regular monthly meeting was called to order at 6:59 PM by Chair Ed Fowler.

Present: Chairman Ed Fowler, members T. Giffen, D. Lewis, E. Davidson, J. Miele, J. Lindsey, B. Kruse, D. Levesque, R. Weeks, S. Wilderman, S. Carrigan

Copies of previous meeting minutes were distributed. Joe Miele noted changes. Paragraph 3, fourth line should read 'ratio' not, 'ration'. Also, paragraph 6, third line should read lot '406' not '408'. A **motion was made** to accept the changes by Tom Giffen, **seconded** by Dennis Lewis, **all in favor, motion carried**.

Wetland Permit Applications were reviewed, including a letter from Boyd Chivers, noting intended trail development/activities. Mr. Chivers wanted to place a culvert in a road trail, along an existing road. The DOT did not object to his request to have the road within the setback of the Rockingham Rail Trail. Chair Ed Fowler saw no concerns raised. D. Lewis suggested that the work might have already been done.

The Land Use/Wetlands/Enforcement Issues were discussed. J. Lindsey presented information regarding Russell Dann's property on Tower Hill Rd., to divide the property into 2 lots. Chair Ed Fowler saw no impact on wetlands. At the next planning board meeting, there will be discussion regarding an over 55 housing development as well as Bill Gregsack, possibly presenting the subdivision for Crowley Woods, Phase II. The property owned by Carol Beck on Raymond Road was discussed, with the intention to create one single 3.07 acre lot. E. Kruse suggested that the property should be protected by the Shoreland Protection Act, since it is a fourth order stream. J. Lindsey will contact the Dept. of Environmental Services regarding information on fourth order streams.

Correspondence was read. A letter was received from CTAP (Community Technical Assistance Program) which is holding a workshop on October 24 (7:00-8:00) at the Raymond High School. Discussion will be on the mitigation program for the I-93 widening. Also, The NH Association of Conservation Commissions is holding seminars on November 4 (8:00-3:30) in Concord. Chair E. Fowler suggested that if multiple people attend, to cover as many workshops as possible. The NH Association of Conservation Commissions sent information reminding the Commission that \$ 200,000 is available for the Moose Plate Conservation Grant. There are two grants available from NH Estuaries, for any of the action plans described in the management plan, for up to \$10,000 with a 50% match, and a Household Waste Grant available for Spring 2007. Chair E. Fowler made the Land Conversation Plan for NH's Coastal Wetlands book available for the Commission., noting that two portions of Candia were included. Also, the Bear Paw Regional Greenway's is hosting the Conservation Round Table on November 13 at 7:00 at the Deerfield Town Hall, which will host an overview of conservation plan development. Also, there will be a Forest Laws Workshop for municipal officers held November 2, in Henniker and November 14, in South Tamworth. Also, the watershed Conference will be November 11, in Concord.

Another item of correspondence was a letter from Carolyn Emerson stating the deadline for warrant articles being submitted was November 8. A discussion ensued about whether to present a warrant article this year and the consensus was that we should not request more funds until some of the funds we currently have are either spent or placed in escrow for future spending on the Sanborn property. Presumably that will not be until sometime 2007.

Budget Update was not discussed due to the absence of D. Snow.

Regarding the 2007 budget, the Commission submitted the budget to the Selectmen, which was discussed. Present was T. Giffen and D. Lewis. Upon the Selectmen asking for more details, D. Snow provided notes to them. The budget is on the agenda for the next Selectmen's meeting on the 23rd.

J. Miele reported on the Conservation Commission website noting that he has updated the site with information on rare species and invasive plants. He is working on designing a form for people to utilize if wildlife species are spotted,

enabling the Commission to update town maps.

Chair Ed Fowler discussed a recent workshop he attended in Unity, NH, on invasive plant species and helping to identify them. He noted that in order for towns to control invasive plants with herbicides, legally, the person has to be a town employee with a supervisory license, requiring a written exam and periodic recertification.

E. Kruse had nothing to report on the Lamprey River Watershed Association.

Chair Ed Fowler has heard nothing more on the Sieminski property, regarding the appraisal of her land. Chair Ed Fowler spoke to Jim Franklin about doing a survey of the Girard property to move forward on a conservation easement. He pointed out the problem with the south boundary being in contention. It was discussed that both Bear Paw and the Town should want to solve this problem. It was noted that Jim Franklin could not give an accurate boundary if the land is in contention. Chair Ed Fowler will talk again with Jim Franklin and ask him to do a boundary line survey without the questioned pieces of property in contention. Also, Arthur Sanborn is awaiting survey of his property.

Regarding the Bear Paw Status Report, there is a Conservation Easement Workshop in Strafford on November 1, at 7:00.

D. Lewis is going to move the sign on the Town Forest Property, known as the "Deerfield Road Town Forest". J. Lindsey will look into size and cost of a new sign.

Chair E. Fowler reported that 15 people attended the walk on the Deerfield Road Town Forest. He made note that S. Wilderman took charge of the trail management position and any help assisting her would be greatly appreciated. It was suggested that D. Snow could possibly seek help from the Boy Scouts.

Chair E. Fowler had nothing to report on the Commission Properties Access Planning and Requests.

J. Lindsey reported that the Candia Conservation Newsletter went out. She noted that a Mr. Dabrowski called with a concern, noting that he thought he was in prime farmland. E. Kruse asked whether the Open Space Committee should be working on a second newsletter and what should the content be. Should it include information on warrant articles. T. Giffen suggested including information about the benefits of conservation, particularly for those who hunt and fish.

E. Kruse received a response from Mark West/West Environmental, Inc. regarding the Prime Wetlands Study. The study was broken down into several phases. She questioned whether the Commission should move forward by putting something in the budget or wait to see what kind of grant money is available. T. Giffen noted that much of Phase 1 could be done by the Commission and possibly offset with a grant. He proposed this be done by doing a warrant article or using money from the Conservation Fund. Chair Ed Fowler suggested the Commission apply for a grant. E. Kruse will let West Environmental know the Commission is giving consideration to this proposal.

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 PM. The next regular meeting will be **November 21, 2006** at the town hall.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Charlene Harris.