

Candia Conservation Commission
APPROVED
Meeting Minutes - February 20, 2007

Present: Ed Fowler, A. Soares, J. Lindsey, D. Lewis, J. Miele, R. Weeks, D. Levesque, T. Giffen and guest George DeWolf.

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Chairman Ed Fowler.

The previous meeting minutes were reviewed noting punctuation, spelling and grammatical errors. A motion was made to accept the meeting minutes by Ed Fowler, seconded by Judi Lindsey, motion carried.

Judi Lindsey reported on Land Use/Wetlands noting that at the February 7th Planning Board meeting Jack Munn was a guest, speaking on the Estuaries Project about increasing the riparian buffers and making them stronger. She noted that he will be working with the town of Candia throughout the year with wording for zoning. She also noted that the Planning Board would be discussing the Exit 3 development project on February 21. She planned on presenting comparative architectural designs to the planning board.

Ed Fowler read correspondence from Ian Trefry (NHSC, Environmental Consultants) questioning whether the Conservation Commission had moved forward with the proposed conservation easement acceptance or draft language review as stated in the November meeting minutes. He noted that the NH DES Wetlands Bureau review period is up at the end of the month. Members of the Commission have been asked to review the Liquid Planet draft conservation easement in preparation for a special meeting to be held on March 5th at 7:00 p.m. in the town hall.

A letter from David Preece (Southern NH Planning Commission) was read requesting action to authorize SNHPC to enter into a contract agreement with NHDES for the Southern NH Regional Source Water Protection Project. SNHPC received authorization to proceed with a grant contract agreement of \$15,000 with a total project cost of \$30,000. This project is aimed at encouraging towns to develop and implement tangible source water protection measures. Phase one includes the town of Deerfield. Phase two includes the towns of Candia, Chester and New Boston. Ed noted at some point we will be involved with this program.

A letter was received from Wayne Ives regarding the Souhegan Protected Instream Flow public hearing. The letter noted that the Lamprey River is part of the Instream Flow Pilot Program. The public hearing is to be held in Milford, NH (town hall auditorium) on March 21, from 6:30 - 9:00. Information was presented about a conference titled "Climate Change and Working Forests" to be held at the Grappone Conference Center at the Marriot Courtyard, Concord, NH on March 1, from 9:00 - 4:00. This conference is for citizens concerned for the future of NH forests. Also, correspondence was received from the Southern NH Planning Commission on regional assessment of the availability of quality and ground water resources in the Merrimack River watershed. SNHPC is asking for \$1,200,000, and requesting \$100,000 from municipalities through conservation funds. They are asking each community located within the geographic area to commit to \$3,500 per year for a three year period.

The Commission received copies of The State of the Estuaries Report for distribution. The NH Estuaries Project also provided the Commission with brochures outlining a new buffer outreach program.

There was nothing new to report on the 2007 Budget.

Joe Miele reported on the Conservation Commission Website noting that he is in the process of taking the wildlife sightings and placing them in a database. He will make note on the website, that the location of sightings will not be published.

There was nothing new to report on the Lamprey River Watershed Association.

Under Conservation land/easement acquisition status, Ed reported on the Pearson property located on South Road. The family has decided to put all 100 acres into a conservation easement with the Society for the Protection of NH Forests.

Judi Lindsey reported on the annual Bear Paw meeting with Tom Wessels.

There was nothing new to report on Forest Management Activities.

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

Under Open Space Subcommittee, guest George DeWolf presented the Commission with ideas on ways to acknowledge protected property. His suggestion included recognizing members of the community with a specialized multipurpose plaque to be located in the town hall. This item will be placed on the March agenda for further review.

Judi Lindsey reported that the January 31 meeting held at the library was very successful. The Open Space Committee will follow up with attendees.

Joe Miele will deliver information to Dick Snow regarding the newsletter for the Boy Scout packet.

There was nothing new to report on Management Plans for Town Lands.

Under Conservation Easement, Ed noted that the Conservation Commission will at some point need to have a public hearing on the conservation easement on the Deerfield Road Town Forest once the language is satisfactory. Joe Miele suggested that we work with Dan Kern to simplify the presentation of this material. Also, Ed noted correspondence from Dan Kern, who questioned whether the Town of Candia had voted on the grant of this Deerfield Town Property easement or whether the select board had the authority to convey this interest after town vote. It was suggested by T. Giffen to review the minutes in the town report.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. A special meeting will be held on March 5 at 7:00. The next regular meeting will be held on March 20.