

**Candia Conservation Commission**  
Approved  
Meeting Minutes – October 21, 2008

Present: Chair Ed Fowler, Vice-Chair Betsy Kruse, Tom Giffen, Dennis Lewis, Richard Weeks, Debra Levesque, Richard Snow, Ellie Davidson and guest Bill Blake.

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Regular Business**

**Wetlands Permit Applications -**

Bill Blake submitted a minimum expedited wetlands application for a driveway he wants to install on North Road. The CCC reviewed the application and it was noted the proposed driveway would create minimum impact on the environment. Said driveway would be 12' wide and would impact 1,620 square feet. There is currently no structure on the property. A 24" reinforced concrete pipe would be installed as a culvert for seasonal runoff. This would be built up with fieldstone and crushed stone. There is currently no intent to pave this driveway.

A motion was made by Tom Giffen to approve the application for a minimum expedited wetland impact for a culvert under a proposed driveway. Seconded by Betsy Kruse. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**Minutes of September 16** were reviewed with the following revisions: Under Present, amend Guest to Guests. Under Regular Business, in the motion revise proposed built to proposal. Under Conservation Land Easement Acquisition Status, in the first sentence delete the word "in", reverse the order of Choice1 and Choice 2, and in the next to last sentence, delete "which was adopted by the voters". Under SB381, in the motion revise wording to read "a warrant article 1b using the language..."

A motion was made by Betsy Kruse to accept the minutes as amended and seconded by Tom Giffen. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**Land Use, Wetlands, Enforcement Issues, Planning Board -**

There was nothing new to report.

**Correspondence -** Ed Fowler reported on the following:

SCA - A letter received from the Student Conservation Association (SCA) who is looking for projects. They partner with land management agencies and community organizations to protect watersheds, build trails, control erosion, conduct flood control and clean up, conduct restoration work and many other labor intensive conservation projects in all corners of the state. They are currently accepting crew and resource intern request from land managers and community organizations for the 2009 summer and fall season. Detail of what the crews provide was given. Discussion followed on which large projects might be considered and options of where the funds would come from. It was stated that there is a charge involved and that the cost of a crew for one "hitch" (24 days) totaled \$17, 422. It was the consensus of the members that before such a large amount of money could be expended, a full plan for a large project would be required and that there is no need for such a project at this time.

SNHPC – Letter informing that they have formed a Natural Resources Advisory Committee.

DES – Sent and requested a survey be completed (Decision Makers Survey for State Water Plan Process). It was noted that this survey was also sent to the selectmen. Betsy Kruse volunteered to complete survey.

DES - Letter regarding recent changes made to the Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act.

DES - Letter regarding changes made to DES Subsurface Rules at RSA 483-B. It was determined this information would be forwarded to the Building Inspector.

Wayne Ives – We received a review of the draft of the Lamprey PISF (proposed protected in stream flow report).

Ed also distributed a number of brochures with information about upcoming lectures, meetings and seminars for anyone interested.

### **Budget Update/Approval of outstanding payments/invoices –**

Dick Snow reported that there was nothing major to report. Ed Fowler reported that it has been authorized for four members to attend the NHACC meeting at a cost of \$160. That will deplete the education portion of the budget.

**Conservation Commission Website** – There was nothing new to report.

### **Lamprey River Watershed Association –**

Dick Snow reported that the annual meeting is on November 6 in Epping. They are still trying to get the river management program here and now that Raymond is interested he hopes it will move along. Lamprey is working with DES and will be providing rewards at the annual meeting for those volunteers who participated in the river walk. They are also working to eliminate Japanese Knotweed.

### **Old Business**

#### **Conservation land/easement(s) acquisition status –**

Ed Fowler reported that the Selectmen voted 3-2 in favor of the town holding a backup easement on the Sander property. However, that vote was followed with a phone call to Chairman Ed Fowler from Selectman Joe Duarte who stated the CCC had done something illegal. Joe Duarte stated he had spoken over the telephone with an attorney at the LGC and was told by her that the CCC should have sought and received permission from the selectmen before the decision was made to spend the \$100,000. Joe stated he had not contacted the town attorney. Based on a previous conversation between Ed Fowler and the town attorney, it is believed that the interpretation of the information from the LGC is incorrect.

Discussion continued on what needs to be done regarding the Sander property. It was determined that a draft of the easement needs to be written and then a public hearing needs to be scheduled. The Sander Trust and Dan Kern of Bear Paw Regional Greeways need to determine the timing of this action.

Discussion proceeded to the Sieminski easement. The CCC needs to determine when they want to propose that the town be a backup easement holder on the Sieminski property. The development rights are valued between \$380,000 - \$390,000 and Carol Sieminski is willing to sell them at a bargain sale price of \$125,000. It was determined that clarification needs to be made first regarding the interpretation of the information received from the LGC before we proceed with the Sieminski property and then it should wait until the warrant article on SB381 is voted on in March.

Chairman Fowler also reported that the reimbursement check from the Natural Resource Conservation Service for the Sanborn Property has been received.

### **Bear-Paw status report –**

Betsy Kruse reported that a round table discussion is scheduled for December 9 in Deerfield at the Community Church and will focus on the regional conservation plan Bear-Paw has developed.

### **Forest Management Activities –**

Ed Fowler reported that an inquiry had been made from the selectmen's office regarding the funds generated from cut timber. They were informed that the funds are put in the Forest Management Fund that was developed a few years ago by a town vote. The funds are used to manage the properties that are owned by the town, which consequently makes them non-taxable.

A motion was made by Betsy Kruse to authorize Dennis Lewis to purchase 4' x 4''s to install signs on town property and that those funds will come out of the Forest Management Fund and are not to exceed \$250. Seconded by Tom Giffen. All were in favor. Motion carried. It was suggested that each of these properties would benefit by having a name in which to separate the identity of said properties and that a small sign with the name could be posted beneath the large sign. It was decided to discuss this further after the current large signs are installed.

### **Commission Properties Access Planning and Requests -**

The footbridge on the New Boston Road property needs to be moved back into place. Dennis Lewis volunteered to do the job. It was discussed that in the future, bridges need to be built higher to keep water off and narrower to keep ATV's off.

### **Open Space Subcommittee-**

Betsy reported that they are continuing work on the next newsletter. It was suggested that the benefits of purchasing development rights versus outright purchase of land (such as in the Sander property) be discussed in the newsletter along with information on the SB381 warrant article and information on Land Use Change Tax and why it should not change. Betsy will do a draft copy and bring it to the next meeting.

Further discussion ensued regarding the meaning and interpretation of SB381.

**Management Plans for Town Land –** There was nothing new to report.

### New Business

#### **Proposed Riparian Buffer Ordinance –**

Ed read an email from Judi regarding information on the buffer on the exit 3 property. It stated "up in the northwest corner of the land there is a triangular buffer 200' by 350' along the top and 420' coming down diagonally from the northeast to the southwest."

Betsy reported that only four people attended the last meeting of the Zoning Revision Committee and she feels that the proposed Riparian Buffer Ordinance is not a priority at this time.

#### **Future Goals/Vision of CCC –**

The future goals based on the 2000- 2001 Candia Commission need to be updated. A copy of the draft revisions made in August 2008 will be copied and mailed to members for discussion at next meeting.

#### **Prime Wetlands Study –**

It was decided that two more estimates for the prime wetlands study are needed. Tom suggested that the following action be taken: CCC drafts a Request for Qualification (RFQ) that can be sent out to potential vendors followed by a Request for Proposals (RFP). The proposals are then reviewed and put out to bid. Once three to four bids are received, the CCC selects the best one and pays for it out of the conservation fund. Tom will draft a RFQ to be reviewed and discussed at the next meeting.

**Deerfield Road Town Forest Sign –**

It was suggested that the Prime Wetland Study information should be included in the CCC brochure that Judi is drafting. It is a major expenditure and should be mentioned in the newsletter. It should include why the CCC is spending that amount out of the Conservation Fund and how it will protect the land in town once it is done. Betsy will email a draft of the newsletter before the next meeting.

**Other Business:**

**NHACC Annual Meeting** is scheduled for November 1. Four CCC members are attending and all are signed up for different workshops.

**SB381** – There was further discussion on the interpretation of the Senate Bill. Dick Snow will check into and help clarify this bill.

A motion to adjourn was made by Tom Giffen and seconded by Debra Levesque. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Pat Larkin