

## Candia Conservation Commission

Approved

Meeting Minutes – April 21, 2009

Present: Acting Chair Betsy Kruse, Dennis Lewis, Judi Lindsey, Joe Miele, Richard Snow, Ellie Davidson, Debra Levesque, Susan Wilderman, and volunteer Ed Fowler.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

### **Regular Business**

**Minutes of March 17** were reviewed and the following revision was made: p.1, under Present add Dean and Sue Young; p.3, under Prime Wetlands Study, line 3, revise “RFPs” to “RFQs”.

**J. Lindsey motioned** to accept the minutes as amended. D. Lewis seconded. B. Kruse abstained. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**Wetlands Permit Applications** – There was nothing new to report.

### **Land Use, Wetlands, Enforcement Issues, Planning Board** –

Judi Lindsey reported that Jack Munn attended the last Planning Board meeting and discussed Impact Fee schedules, water resource protection management and other subjects the Planning Board should consider. Ed Fowler reported that he has received a contract from SNHPC for the *Cost to Community Service* study with details of the scope of the project that will take place from July 1 to November 30, 2009. The Planning Board signed the contract and agreed to release a portion of the CTAP Funds that were not used in a previous project to help cover the cost of the study.

**Correspondence** – Betsy Kruse and Ed Fowler reported on the following:

- Thank you note and newsletter from Bear-Paw
- Easement Monitoring Report from Bear-Paw
- Report from Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership
- Local Officials Workshops on June 6 and June 13
- UNH Extension sent a CD of their report *The Importance of Hydroperiod in Wetland Assessment*
- NHDES – NH Aquatic Resources Program are accepting applications for grants for the Merrimack River Watershed. Candia would be eligible for these grants. Applications are due by June 5. Dick Snow volunteered to investigate these further.
- A number of notices regarding upcoming meetings, lectures, and workshops were distributed for anyone interested.

### **Budget Update/Approval of Outstanding Payments/Invoices** –

Dick Snow reported that the three outstanding invoices from last year have been paid. **D. Snow motioned** to reimburse S. Wilderman, J. Lindsey, and B. Kruse \$60.00 each for the cost of attending the Special Places workshop. E. Davidson seconds. All were in favor. Motion carried.

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

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

Dick Snow reported that the Lamprey River Watershed Association Advisory Committee is hosting a seminar on June 13 to discuss the watershed and why we need to protect it. He is looking for ten people from Candia to attend. The LRWA is working hard to get the entire watershed into a protection program.

## **Old Business**

### **Conservation Land/Easement(s) Acquisition Status –**

#### ▪ Sander Easement:

Betsy Kruse reported that she met with three selectmen regarding the Sander easement. Bart Mayer (Town Council) has agreed to consult with DES and explore possibilities for language to address possible mitigation concepts. The BOS is looking for a vote of approval from the CCC to incorporate the concept into the easement language. It was questioned if the CCC can involve itself since the language is between Bear-Paw and the Sander Trust. Bart has provided language that he forwarded to Dan Kern of Bear-Paw to have him check with their lawyer and the Trust. The preliminary language Bart Mayer sent for consideration was: “In the event that the State of NHDES and the town of Candia enter into an agreement which prevents the easement conveyed herein to be part of a mitigation program and Grantor and Bear-Paw agree that neither will raise any objection to such program or the payment of any fees to the town by a third party.” The intent of adding mitigation to the language was discussed. The majority felt it was an interesting idea but don’t want it to delay the easement. **J. Lindsey made a motion** that the Conservation Commission supports the concept of allowing the use of mitigation funds from future projects to replenish the conservation funds for conservation efforts. D. Levesque seconded. One abstained. All others were in favor. Motion carried.

#### ▪ Agricultural Day:

This event is scheduled for May 6 (rain date May 7) at the Moore School. A reception in honor of the Sanborns will be held from 9-10 a.m. in the Art room. Judi has the gift and Betsy has crafted an invitation. It was decided that invitations will be sent to other town Boards. Deb will provide paper products, Ellie will provide coffee, Susan a veggie platter, and Judi, Joe and others will provide baked goods. Items needed by 8:30. Currently the number of guests to be invited is approximately 31. There is no budget for this event. Everything is paid for by private donations.

**Bear-Paw Status Report –** Betsy Kruse shared a calendar of upcoming events.

**Forest Management Activities –** There was nothing new to report.

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

Ed Fowler reported that Jon Ekroth is continuing his work on mapping the conservation sites and plans to add a brief description on each map. It was suggested that Ed let Jon know that some of this information is already available on the website.

### **Open Space Subcommittee –**

Judi Lindsey reported that she and others that attended the Saving Special Places workshop came up with some ideas on ways to celebrate the conservation land in Candia. These will be discussed later in the meeting during Future Goals.

Ed Fowler reported that Jack Munn informed him that Candia was selected for a second round of CTAP Open Space Plan updates in our region. These will take place in 2009-2010. Judi Lindsey volunteered to be the project coordinator.

### **Management Plans for Town Land –**

Dennis Lewis reported for Ben Lewis on his Eagle Scout project. According to Bear-Paw, the wording on the Deerfield Rd. easement limits a parking area to only 100’ in from Route 43. The cleared area Ben was planning on using is outside of the 100’ so he needs to bring it closer to the road. The new parking area will need to be reconfigured to fit in the area allowed by the easement. The Commission agreed by consensus to allow the changes necessary.

## New Business

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

Betsy Kruse reported that Jack wants to get the Planning Board and Conservation Commission together to discuss it and we are waiting to hear when this will occur. His intent is for both boards to submit a joint ordinance proposal to the zoning revision committee.

### **Prime Wetlands Study –**

Ed Fowler reported that the five parties that submitted RFQs are interested in continuing the process and are waiting for the requirements outlined in a RFP. The draft RFP was reviewed, discussed and amended. Ed will email the final RFP to all interested parties.

### **Goals and Objectives –**

Judi Lindsey reported on the inspiration she and others received at the Special Places workshop. Last year one of the goals of the CCC was to educate people about conservation. It was suggested this year the CCC should take a different approach and find ways to encourage others to celebrate and use the conservation land. Suggestions included:

- Host recreational activities on the properties. Some ideas were “Bike Day”, “Horseback Riding”, and “Snowshoe Hikes”.
- Public Relations. “A picture is worth a thousand words.” Publish photographs of people using and enjoying the conservation land. This will inspire others to use it also.
- Make the land people friendly. Keep trails cleared, place boardwalks or bridges over wet areas, and provide parking areas and maps.

This “softer” approach to publicize the benefits of conservation falls under the current goals and objectives. **D. Snow motioned** to accept the Goals and Objectives 2009 as written. J. Lindsey seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **New Members and Election of Officers-**

Betsy Kruse reported that member Tom Giffen resigned from the Commission and members Dick Weeks and Ed Fowler are not seeking to renew their appointment. Alternate member Joe Collette is also not seeking to renew his appointment.

**D. Snow motioned** to accept alternate member Susan Wilderman as a full member on the Candia Conservation Commission to fill the position made available by Tom Giffen’s resignation, with her term to expire in 2011. J. Lindsey seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**D. Snow motioned** to recommend alternate member Debra Levesque to serve as full member on the Candia Conservation Commission for a three-year term expiring in 2012. J. Lindsey seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**J. Lindsey motioned** to recommend alternate member Ellie Davidson to serve as a full member on the Candia Conservation Commission for a three-year term expiring in 2012. J. Miele seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**D. Lewis motioned** to recommend reappointing Dick Snow as an alternate member for a three-year term expiring in 2012. J. Lindsey seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The position of Chairperson was discussed. Responsibilities include:

- Communications (emails, phone calls, correspondence)
- Prepare meeting agenda and preside over meetings
- Provide all pertinent information/handouts at meetings
- Spokesperson/Representative for the Commission

It was suggested that the position be a rotating one and that some of the responsibilities be divided between other members. Pros and cons were discussed and the decision was tabled until the June meeting. B. Kruse agreed to act as chair at the May meeting only. S. Wilderman stated she would consider the Chairperson position.

### **Other Business**

- It was the consensus of the Commission to ask the Board of Selectmen to consider hosting an all town Board Meeting as they have in the past. It was agreed that it is very beneficial to the town to have the various boards together for a round table discussion to do some networking and offer support to each other. B. Kruse agreed to compose and submit a letter to the Board of Selectmen.
  
- It was the consensus of the Commission for D. Snow to move forward with his beautification project of the town triangles. He will approach the Garden Club and Heritage Commission.

**D. Snow motioned** to adjourn at 9:05 pm. E. Davidson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pat Larkin - Conservation Commission Secretary