DURHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION Minutes to Meeting (Final)

February 9, 2006

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm.

Members present: Dwight Baldwin, Cynthia Belowski, Beryl Harper, Jim Hellen, Duane Hyde, Richard Ozenich, George Thomas, Peter Smith, Robin Vranicar Excused absence: Lee Alexander

1. New Business/Presentations

- **a.** Sally Soule and Natalie Landry of NH DES and Steve Jones of UNH Jackson Lab gave a presentation on the Microbial Source Tracking Study as part of the NH Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Program. They described bacterial pollution and showed data from shellfish surveys in 2001, 2002 and 2004 at 2 locations in Durham: Crommet Creek and unnamed creek near Colony Cove. We will return to this topic at a later meeting.
- **b.** Several people from NH Soils and UNH, including Larry Morse and Ian Trefry gave a presentation on the proposed methane pipeline from Rochester's Turnkey Landfill to UNH. A very informative discussion focused on the feasibility study, the pipeline route, the process of collecting and cleaning the gas, the methods of laying the pipeline, and the use of an alternative energy source for UNH.

2. Acceptance of minutes of January 12, 2006 – Approved as is.

3. Ongoing Business

a. <u>Wetlands applications</u> – Robin Vranicar will take over the position of overseeing the Town's Wetlands applications. Lee Alexander will contact her and show her the process.

b. <u>Mill Pond</u> – Dwight Baldwin reported that there is no new development.

c. <u>Land Protection Working Group</u> - Duane Hyde reported that the Town Council supported the application to DES for the grant on the Fogg property. The easement is currently being drafted. He also described the site visit to the ORSD property on Orchard Road. Members recommended the usage of "protected open space"; that no new roads are constructed; that the back acreage sloping down to the Oyster River be protected; and that lots be developed only along the road frontage. Duane will include these restrictions.

d. <u>Town Land Use/Trails Subcommittee</u> – The Longmarsh Preserve grant was submitted in January and a response will probably come in March. Cynthia Belowski will meet with the Subcommittee to discuss stewardship of town-owned trails.

e. <u>Wetland issues</u> – Nothing to report

4. Board and Committee Reports

a. <u>Town Council</u> - Peter Smith reported on 2 topics: The Council discussed the Fogg property grant application, and there is a public hearing scheduled on February 25th for 3 more overlays in Zoning, including shoreland protection.

b. <u>Planning Board</u> - Rich Ozenich reported on 3 current UNH proposals: new dorms at Forest Park, child care center at Woodside with married student housing, and the relocation of the housing office to Randall Hall. Spruce Woods is planning an additional 93 units; Dwight will ask Jack Farrell to come and make a presentation to this Board.

c. Oyster and Lamprey Rivers - Cynthia Belowski had no updates.

5. Other Business

a. <u>Jackson's Landing</u> – Dwight Baldwin reported the area has just been surveyed. He announced the public hearing on February 28^{th} at the Town Office to seek input from the public on the use of Jackson's Landing.

b. <u>Members' Terms</u> – 3 members' terms are expiring in April: Lee Alexander, Cynthia Belowski and Robin Vranicar. As Lee is retiring from the DCC, Robin will take over the review of wetland permits. We recommend to Council that Jim Hellen be moved from an Alternate position to a regular member.

6. Administrative

- a. a. Correspondence was presented briefly. The public hearing for the Great Bay Outflow Pipe Study is on March 25 in Stratham. It will be in a charette format. We noted the NH Estuaries Project Technical Assistance grant application.
- b. Date of next meeting March 9, 2006

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Recorded by Beryl Harper