

**DURHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**Minutes to Meeting (Final)**

**June 8, 2006**

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm.

Members present: Cynthia Belowski, Beryl Harper, Jim Hellen, Duane Hyde, Katie Jacques,  
Richard Ozenich, George Thomas, Peter Smith, Robin Vranicar

Excused absence: Dwight Baldwin

**1. New Business/Presentations - none**

**2. Acceptance of minutes of May 11, 2006 – Approved as is.**

**3. Ongoing Business**

- a. Wetlands applications – Robin Vranicar reported on 3 projects.
  - 1. 20 Cedar Point Road: update
  - 2. 20 Riverview Road: Application is coming.
  - 3. UNH: Installation of one culvert for drainage on a trail in College Woods. No adverse impact.
- b. Mill Pond – Peter Smith reported that Mike Lynch has contacted the local office of the National Guard.
- c. Land Protection Working Group - Duane Hyde reported on several projects.
  - 1. Duane presented a letter stating how he will avoid a conflict of interest between his professional position at TNC and his volunteer position on the DCC.
  - 2. Update on Beaudette property on Bennett Road with 140 wooded acres.
  - 3. Dea Brickner-Wood has been meeting with the Tri Town Greenway Group.
  - 4. The Emery Farm project is ongoing with the SPNHF.
  - 5. The Rockingham Land Trust has done an easement baseline report on the Merrick property.
- d. Town Land Use/Trails Subcommittee
  - 1. George Thomas reviewed several letters about the grant and building bog bridges on Longmarsh Road Trail. Duane mentioned a TNC workshop for building bog bridges at Lubberland Creek on June 24. Katie Jacques will investigate a NH list of local volunteers.
  - 2. Cynthia Belowski described 2 lists she presented for discussion at a recent Trails meeting: 8 properties for Adopt-a-Trail, and 15 properties for the DCC to oversee.

**4. Board and Committee Reports**

- a. Town Council - Peter Smith explained, once again, that Wagon Hill Farm is not formally protected as permanent open space. A discussion followed, and Duane said how difficult it is to get funding for an easement, and mentioned 2 interim steps for a stronger level of protection. Peter also reported that the Council has recently discussed the commercial use of the Arthur Grant Circle.

**b. Planning Board** - Rich Ozenich reported on 2 items of discussion: There are some wetlands on the property of a planned new Strafford Ave. student housing building. The Planning Board is looking for clarification on timber harvesting in the Shoreline Protection Zone code.

**c. Oyster and Lamprey Rivers** - Cynthia Belowski reported on 2 items of discussion: The Lamprey River Advisory Committee is also looking at the status of timber harvesting in the Shoreline Protection Zone. The LRAC is continuing to investigate Durham water use, and will be meeting with the Town Council to discuss the drawdown of Wiswall Dam.

## **5. Other Business**

**a. Colony Cove Study**- Cynthia reported that she had met with Todd Selig, and he would talk with Tom Johnson about the fecal coliform study. She will write a draft letter that will be given to residents when they renew dog licenses about cleaning up after their pets. She noted there is an upcoming meeting on the NH “Scoop the Poop” campaign with grant money for public education.

## **6. Administrative**

**a.** Duane reported that the DCC account has \$9,539 and the Change Use tax account has \$744,318.

**b.** Date of next meeting – July 13, 2006

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Submitted by Beryl Harper