

Durham Conservation Commission

Minutes to Meeting

November 9, 2006

Meeting called to order at 7:05PM

Members present: Dwight Baldwin, Cynthia Belowski, Beryl Harper, Jim Hellen, Duane Hyde, Richard Ozenich, Peter Smith, George Thomas

Excused Absence: Robin Vranicar

1. New Business/Presentations

- a. Roger Roy of MJS Engineering presented a plan to repair and improve the upper retention pond off Sumac Lane in Canney Farms. Wetlands application has been filed. Results will include increased storm storage capacity, and improve issues with erosion on the current dam. Duane Hyde recommended MJS have the town engineer look at the plan to ensure that the pond will function at least as well as the previous one. George Thomas will send an email to Dori Wiggins and cc: David Cedarholm.
- b. Julia Dundorf and Denise Blaha of NH Carbon Coalition presented their NH Carbon Challenge. They are meeting with towns all over the state to generate grass-roots support to have towns accept a challenge to reduce carbon emissions by 10,000 pounds per household per year. The DCC will discuss at our next meeting.

2. Acceptance of minutes of October 12, 2006 – minutes accepted.

3. Ongoing Business

- a. Wetlands Applications –
 - i. George Thomas presented an application from M. Cleary, 26 Cedar Point Road for a new pier and dock that would extend approximately 180' out into Little Bay. The DCC will visit the site.
 - ii. Dwight Baldwin presented a minimum impact application from the UNH Campus Community Farm to install an irrigation pond at their site on Spinney Lane. All felt this request was okay.
- b. Mill Pond – have been informed that preparation and planning will begin for dredging by the NH National Guard in 2008.
- c. Land Protection Working Group (LPWG) – Duane Hyde gave the following update:
 - i. The group met with the Town Council (TC) to establish a process to ensure that both the Conservation Commission (DCC) and TC are equally well informed about properties that would be brought before the public for approval. The LPWG will meet with the TC early in the process, provide the same packet of info to both the TC and DCC and both groups will be included on the site walk.
 - ii. The Fogg project is almost complete. The contract has been signed. The Town will hold the conservation easement, and the DCC is responsible to ensure that the property is monitored. The Town will contract with the Southeast Land Trust of NH to do the baseline documentation.
- d. Town Land-use/Trails Subcommittee –

- i. Longmarsh Preserve boardwalk project 90% complete. The subcommittee will be meeting to determine how best to use remaining 9 sections.
- ii. Duane Hyde reported that the welcome sign at the Longmarsh Preserve entrance is confusing hunters. The placement of sign causes some to think that there is no hunting on all of the land in the area. Hunting is allowed on conservation land that belongs to other organizations and surrounds the Town land. Duane will prepare a small temporary sign to clarify. Future kiosk information should make the use restrictions clear.

4. Board and Committee Reports

- a. Town Council – Peter Smith commented that with the anticipated increase in taxes for the coming year, it may not be the best time to request more funding for land acquisition.
- b. Planning Board – Richard Ozenich reported on the following:
 - i. The Craig Meadows project application has been accepted. The proposed project involves a 3 story (35 foot structure) 70 unit residence for occupants 55 years and older off of Madbury Rd.
 - ii. The Planning Board has made the necessary changes to the wetland timbering section of the zoning code to comply with state regulations.
 - iii. Richard presented a photo of the house on River Rd that the DCC had paid a site visit to about a year ago. The plan for changes to the site was approved. Richard questions whether they followed the plan as it was presented. He will bring the plan to our next meeting for review.
- c. Lamprey River Advisory Committee – Cynthia Belowski reported that the 10 year draft update to the management plan is almost complete. The LRAC will be seeking town input before finalizing the plan.

5. Other Business

- a. Update on Jackson Landing – Dwight Baldwin explained that the type of funding we had applied for through NH DES is for watershed level projects, so it has been determined that the Jackson Landing project does not qualify for this funding. The Town match funding of \$70,000 has been approved. The subcommittee will regroup to determine what the priority tasks are and how this \$70,000 may be best used.
- b. Oversight of Conservation Lands and Easements – Cynthia Belowski reported that she has begun to research the Town files to gather the documents needed for baseline documentation of properties.

6. Administrative

- a. Date of next meeting – December 14, 2006.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35.

Prepared by: Cynthia Belowski