

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

**April 12, 2007**

Meeting called to order at 7:07 pm.

Members present: Dwight Baldwin, Cynthia Belowski, Beryl Harper, Jim Hellen, Duane Hyde,  
Julian Smith, Robin Vranicar

Excused absence: George Thomas

Absent: Rich Ozenich

**1. New Business/Presentations**

- a. Dea Brickner-Wood: Great Bay Partnership  
Duane Hyde recused himself from this discussion.  
Dea gave a brief update of the Partnership NAWCA grant awards, and spoke about the request for using the Fogg property conservation easement as a grant match, as explained in her memo dated March 27, 2007. Jim Hellen made a motion that the DCC recommend to the Town Council that they accept the Notice of Grant Agreement on the Fogg Property. Dwight Baldwin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- b. Cynthia Belowski and Dick Lord: Lamprey River Advisory Committee  
Cynthia gave a presentation on the recent draft Management Plan, which is an update of the original 1995 Plan. She gave an overview of the Plan, and asked DCC members to read the Plan and bring comments to next month's meeting. During the discussion, she clarified the difference between a fish ladder and a proposed natural passage on the Lamprey River at the Wiswall Dam.

**2. Acceptance of Minutes of March 8, 2007 - Accepted with minor changes.**

**3. Ongoing Business**

- a. Wetlands applications – No new projects.  
The DES response to the DiCampi application on Adam's Pt. Road required an evaluation of the property for an alternate location for the proposed dock.
- b. Mill Pond – Dwight Baldwin reported that Mike Lynch is moving forward, expecting the dredging to be done in October 2007. Material excavated may be deposited on the LaRoche property on Bennett Road.
- c. Land Protection Working Group - Duane Hyde reported on the Fogg property. The conservation easement closing is planned for later in April. The easement baseline documentation is being prepared by Chris Kane. There was discussion of monitoring easements and possibly hiring the SE Land Trust for annual monitoring. Jim mentioned planning a clean-up on the Merrick trails later this spring.
- d. Town Land Use/Trails Subcommittee - Jim reported plans to spend the remaining grant money on kiosks and trail markers at Longmarsh Preserve. Dwight mentioned that ruts in the roadway need repairing.
- e. Oversite of Town-owned lands – Cynthia reported no new action.

- f. Mill Plaza Study Committee – Julian Smith gave a brief update. Concerns of the Brook and buffer zone were mentioned, including protection of the Brook, slope of the parking lot, filtering run-off from the parking lot, and enhancing the natural area adjacent to the Brook.

#### **4. Board and Committee Reports**

- a. Town Council - Julian reported the DCC Alternate position is not yet filled. The Council authorized the TIF legislation. Negotiations are ongoing with Chinberg Builders for the Durham Business Park with possible access to the water and shoreline.
- b. Planning Board – Dwight reported that the public hearing on the Goss property was closed, with deliberation continued until next week’s meeting. Discussion followed, based on the site walk on April 8. See 5.a. below.  
The public hearing on the Stonemark project on Madbury Road is to be continued. Neighbors spoke about their concerns, particularly the facts that the proposed project is out of character for the neighborhood, and also that the 2 parcels of land determining the size of the project are not adjacent.
- c. Lamprey River Advisory Committee – Cynthia reported on the hearing for Durham’s request to draw down an impounded section of the Lamprey for possible town water supply, and LRAC’s opposition to the plan. DCC members discussed the formation of a Water Advisory Committee, to focus on water conservation, and agreed to put it on the agenda for next month.

#### **5. Other Business**

- a. Goss property site visit and memo - Cynthia will write a memo to the Planning Board detailing the DCC position against the proposed rezoning for environmental, historical and land-use reasons. See 4.b. above.
- b. NH Assn. of Conservation Commissions Questionnaire – Brief discussion of several questions, especially what workshops and training would be helpful for DCC volunteers.
- c. Jackson Landing - The Town was awarded a matching grant of \$20,000 for Jackson Landing work!

#### **6. Administrative**

- a. File cabinet clean-up is scheduled for April 28 or May 5 with Duane, Cynthia and Dwight
- b. Date of next meeting – May 10, 2007

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Submitted by Beryl Harper