

**Town of Atkinson
Conservation Commission
Regular Meeting 7:00 pm
Monday, November 1, 2010**

Open Regular Meeting:

Chairman Dziechowski opened the Regular Meeting of the Town of Atkinson Conservation Commission at 7:33 p.m. on Monday, November 1, 2010, in the Atkinson Town Hall.

Members Present:

Dziechowski, Chairman
Paul Wainwright, Vice-Chairman
Dan Kimball
Denise Legault
Michelle Veasey

Others Present:

Tim Lavelle,
Julie LaBranche, RPC
Steve Oakum, Dube~Plus Construction
Todd Wallace, Dube~Plus Construction

Guest business:

Tim Lavelle, Lavelle Surveying, for 37 Boulder Cove Road, Map 23 Lot 75, property located on the water on the corner of Boulder Cove Road. Property houses a wooden structure.

- House is approx. 16 feet from water
- Deck is approx. 10 feet from water
- near the boat ramp
- not a year round house
- leach field is a pumping system and was approved in 1973 by the State
- leach field is approximately 70' from the water (plans from 1972 show septic system to be 100' from water)
- Plans to move the house back as well as septic. The septic will be moved approximately 80' from water - can't get 100' because of the land, lot-line 10' buffer and position of the house. The camp will be razed and a new two-story house will be placed on lot. (not a year round) The house will be considerably larger.
- There will be less impermeable ground than there is now, due to the use of new permeable paving materials.
- Tree cutting - a few trees may be needed to be removed but majority will be left as is
- increased roof surface and there will be dry wells placed to collect rain water
- shoreline - is over grown- some tall blueberry bushes maybe added - rocky face, no sandy beach
- spot for dock- existing is removable and hinged to a boulder
- new house to be set back
- no intention of closing in porch
- water test will determine if house and septic can be set back further (environ-pipe system)

Commission would like to see the house set further back from the shoreline.

- Town needs to be notified as an abutter
- no other input from Commission

Dube~Plus Construction for owner of 113 Maple Avenue, Map 18 Lot 71-2, seeking 12' wetlands setback variance to construct accessory living unit. Not scheduled, took their documentation for later discussion.

Julie LaBranche - of the Rockingham Planning Commission; ongoing NRI review
Farming - there are currently 17 working farms in Atkinson
Discussion on list of farms - Gordon Brown's is oldest and still grows hay

Master Plan - Natural Resources Inventory
Farming/Farms Chapter (Agricultural)

- activities change from year to year
- some farms for long periods of time - worth noting in Master Plan
- inclusion of historical farms i.e. 1760 Tristan Knight farm, Gordon Brown Farm, Page Farm
- list history & photos of a farm

Seven farms listed in current use in Atkinson.

- discussion on local farms and Agricultural Commission and Julie will look into farmstead vs. Agricultural
- track farm data
- cataloging farms

Appendix A Recommendation and Implementation Plan

Julie will make edits and send back and use different colors for added and revised text. Julie will dedicate December to reviewing the maps and present it to the Planning board in January or possible February. RPC has maps on line for viewing. Paul asked about overlaying maps. Julie suggested printing on Mylar and then you can mix and match. Next meeting of the Commission will review the revised plan; this will be on December 6th at 7:00pm

New Business

Discussion on invasive control David Martin and Matt Tarp are working on a Zamburni a machine that will burn the invasive weeds that is run from propane behind a tractor.

Discussion on the train station: it did not get the grant , they were looking for \$29 million and had \$4-5 million from a previous grant and \$20 million from the Tiger 2 grant, which instead went to work on the design for the Bridge to Kittery Maine. They are still looking for alternative funding.

113 Maple Avenue

Property has a Ridge with a steep run off to a very minor wetland. Tim is familiar with the lot and recommends advising the ZBA to have erosion control measures in place. Sees no issues going from a 100-foot to an 88-foot setback.

Tim asked for a motion to write a letter to the ZBA stating that the conservation commission has no problem with the 12-foot setback variance for 113 Maple Avenue but is concerned with erosion on the steep hill. Michelle Veasey moved the motion and Paul Wainwright seconded. The Conservation Commission voted unanimously to approve motion.

Encroachment Issues on Trinity House

- Need to find surveyors' pins
- Poison ivy hindered survey, wait until winter and use a metal detector to locate pins

Bryant Woods Issue

Map 5 Lot 48

- A paved path exists between the town lot and private lot Map 5 Lot 53. Signs have been posted that state Bryant Woods and "imply" a no trespassing right. There is no easement for this
- Need to locate surveyors pins bordering the path
- Encroachment issue whether it is the Town, Bryant Woods, or the private landowner
- State may have issues - Tim to look into history

Zedalis planting plan for construction near prime wetland

- Tim will do a follow up letter to Jim Kirsch

Other Business

Forestry Cut

Sue Copetta is setting up a separate forestry maintenance fund as required by RSA 31:113. By law this cannot be part of the general fund or conservation fund. By December all slips should be in for a final total.

Next Project – Carolyn Orr town forest. Charlie Moreno and Greg Morse (forester and logger) have walked the parcel and could do a harvest this winter but an inventory and forest management plan will have to be in place first. There was discussion as to whether the Management Plan and the cut should be done by different foresters to avoid conflict of interest.

Town Meeting Warrant Article - Tim is to look into a warrant article allocating 100% of Land Use change tax to the Conservation Fund Tim will also see if the Selectmen and Budget Committee want to recommend it.

Internal Business

Treasurers Report

Printer purchased by the Conservation Commission is installed in Planning Office - it copies 11x17 and in color

Mowing - one bill is in

Potential 2010 End-of-year expenditures:

- Re-graveling Great Forest Road extension.
- Signs – no-parking fire lane signs
- Books - ordered Landscaping at the Water's Edge (2), A Hard Road to Travel
- SPNHF dues
- 4-H Field - has several trees down on the walking path
- Waiting until leaves are off to remove trees
- Professional Expenses - Minutes
- Fencing – can we ask selectmen if we can use Ted and crew to put in fencing?
- Repair of kayak dock - lake is very low at 4' and meeting prior was 7' - Tim to order float
- Budget - \$6,100 still have \$4,500

Discussion on south side of Sawyer and bogs and making a bog trail. Dan brought up a self-propelled wagon by the DR company that would be ideal for working on trails. Also discussed were Professional Services, signs, care of grounds, walking bogs structures, surveyor services, fencing double farm gates

Tim made a motion to defer minute reviews until next meeting.

Discussion of Town Web page update.

Budget Commission - requesting a 5% cut, conservation on their 11/22 agenda

Next meeting - December 6, 2010 at 7:00pm

Adjournment:

Paul made a motion to close the Regular Meeting and go to a Private Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (d) to discuss a land purchase. Michelle seconded the motion and the Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the Regular meeting and go to a Private Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (d).

Private session was closed at 10:58 by motion that passed unanimously. Acclimation to seal by unanimous vote of five.

Respectfully submitted by Patricia Power