

**Minutes, Atkinson Conservation Commission
November 7, 2011
Atkinson Town Hall**

Call To Order by Chairman Tim Dziechowski at 7:20

Attending:

Tim Dziechowski
Dan Kimball
Denise Legault
Pete McVay
Michelle Veasey

Other Dredge and Fills / Site Walks / Complaints

LCIP report for Caroline Orr town forest: still has to be completed.

SPNHF 2010 monitoring report, Williams, W&M, #4 still has to be completed.

NH Dam Bureau still has issues with Rick Schafer's dam.

Driveway crossing on Blackford Drive was permitted under file 2008-01798 as part of subdivision approval

Tree down blocking Forest Road entrance to Sawyer town forest - already removed

Problems with retaining wall at 25 Stickney Rd, Lili Bao, Tax Map 23-25, across from canoe launch. Pictures were taken by Tim and Pete and will be placed at the bottom of these minutes. Although the homeowner did the proper work and permits, the contractor appeared to have overstepped his contract. Tim will call Lili, and the commission needs to contact DES. Denise filled the complaint with DES. Pete will look up the permit number and the old minutes (2008).

Complaints from Lake Shore Drive to Pete about the amount of trees and falldowns from storm damage. Pete will talk to Ted about cutting and stacking the worst material and recommending that the homeowners take it for their fireplaces.

Signage on conservation lands may become an issue as the election season heats up. A motion was made that no signage may be placed on town-owned conservation land without the permission of the conservation commission. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. A motion made that any land-use rule made by the commission may be amended by a simple majority of the commission. The motion seconded and passed unanimously.

Land clearing on common open space land in Cogswell Farms. Complaints have been received about the clearing and noise. The cluster was done under the village plan alternative zoning division. The question was raised if there was a conservation easement on this open space. There is no easement on file; however, RSA 674:21-a creates an implied (and therefore valid) easement under the section "innovative land use controls". A motion was made to write a letter to the Cogswell Farm Homeowners Association stating that removal of trees on cluster open space is not allowed, per RSA 477:45-I. The Cogswell association may attend a meeting of the conservation commission for clarification. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Michelle will write a letter to the Association.

Review of Correspondence

Planning Board Agenda Items: there was not much activity, only a few zoning ordinances were discussed. The Shoreland Protection Act is now the "Water Quality Protection Act, and many "nuisance" rules have been simplified or eliminated.

Zoning Board Agenda items: No meeting, no applications.

Other Business

Hunting season: the Commission will put up a notice on the web site about hunting times, conditions, and places. Hunting seasons have begun. Hunters must shoot 300' away from houses (except their own land). Deer hunting season is from 9th November through 4th December. Other hunting seasons are found at http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/Hunting/hunting_dates_and_seasons.htm

Scenic byway easement grant, vote on matching funds. There are some grant funds available to assist in the easement along the tunnel. Carol had asked if the conservation commission would provide matching funds if this is a requirement of the grant.

Quarantine on out of state firewood in grapple loads. Homeowners may get permits to bring in out of state loads if they can document origin.

Mailbox lettering for Sawyer replacement trail map mailbox. Michelle will do a few more signs. Tim has a replacement. Signs are needed at Sawyer, Stickney, Pope Road, and Marshall lands.

State prison sign shop can do signs like the ones used on the Windham rail trail for about \$100/sign. Tim found this from the Windham board. He also researched a number of bylaws in local towns. These will be available on the Conservation docs.google site. Funds can be encumbered, but we don't know how much time it takes to produce signs. Tim will get a cost estimate and approximate time to produce to encumber the funds for signs.

Bylaws and land use rules: given the many questions around bylaws and the examples, we will defer discussion until we can review the various towns, such as Milford. RPC grants also cover more detailed trail maps.

Canoe launch parking delimiters, still need to order berms. Tim did measure for the berms. We could support 4-5 parking spaces, since there is about 36' available. Tim will order them and they will be stored until spring.

Possibility of **storing conservation files in planning office,** trail tools in town garage
- Perambulation...need appointments from Selectmen in writing.

Internal Business

Secretary report: deferred to December.

Treasurer's report: Ted mowed the Sawyer field and cleared out all the blowdown at the entrance. Tim will ask him to do the Bonin field. Our 2012 budget will be back to what it was two years ago.

Web Page update: some email exchange to take down the web page. The new web page is up and running. Tim pointed out - Webpage update, Wolfeboro is a good example of the right split http://wolfeboronh.us/Pages/WolfeboroNH_BComm/Conservation/index

RPC Legislator's forum: to discuss sustainable transportation funding. Wed 6-9 PM at Unital headquarters in Hampton.

The next meeting of the Commission will be Monday, December 5th, at 7:00.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10.

Put in docs.google.com

Respectfully submitted,

Pete McVay

Seawall construction at 25 Stickney Rd, taken week of Oct 30th.

