

Minutes, Atkinson Conservation Commission March 12, 2012 Atkinson Town Hall

Call To Order by Chairman Tim Dziechowski at 7:16.

Attending:

Tim Dziechowski
Dan Kimball
Denise Legault
Pete McVay
Paul Wainwright

Guest Business and Plan Reviews:

- **Diane Heer, Kimball Library Director, joint presentation on ticks.** Denise said that Diane has a conflict and could not attend. Tim mentioned about having an outreach session with the schools. There is a significant amount of ticks and not much information on how to deal with them. Denise asked that Pete contact the library head on ticks and also gather information and links on ticks (URLs).
- **Joint project possibilities with Garden Club.** Pete had said that he would get a speaker for the conservation for their March 2013 meeting. The Garden Club would like to work with the Conservation Commission. The first meeting of the Garden Club will be April 4th with a discussion of the invasive species in the town. (Normally the meeting is the first Wednesday of the Month). The town funds the Garden club to take care of town flower beds and the annual town cleanup. They also water the very extensive town flowerbeds. The club would like to do a joint cleanup project with the Conservation Commission for invasive species. There is a lot of labor needed for these activities, but could be managed with joint resources. Pete will talk to his wife about invasive species control in Florida, and Tim will contact the Vegetation Control organization.

Review of Correspondence

Planning Board Agenda Items: Master Plan Work: minor plan work and some enforcement actions occurring on Industrial Drive. NRI is not yet incorporated because of timing with Public Hearings. Will be added when public hearings are held and the Planning Board will then approve, with amendments if they occur.

Zoning Board Agenda items: Mike Saviano applying for variance at Boulder Cove Road per code 5120 (permitted uses table): It is not clear what is being requested without the full petition. Also cited 700:1 (continuation of nonconforming uses). Change of status from seasonal to year-round.

Other Dredge and Fills / Site Walks / Complaints

- **LCIP report for Caroline Orr town forest:** need completion.
- **SPNHF 2011 monitoring report, Williams, W&M, #4:** Pete will complete. Some issue about boundaries: contact Hampstead Conservation for clarification. Pete will contact Hampstead and arrange a joint walk.
- **NH Dam Bureau** still has issues with Rick Schafer's dam.
- **Lili Bao, DES complaint active:** Eben Lewis sent a letter advising her of the complaint about work was incorrect. We will hear from Eben Lewis about the complaint.
- **Clearing and fill in wetlands at VanRy Stables,** spoke with Eben Lewis at DES, there is no agricultural exemption, we need to file a wetlands complaint. Pete will call and contact. Talk to him about doing brush dumping into wetlands. Pete asked if we should talk to Sue Killam, concerning the land use as an agricultural use. However, Denise pointed out that brushland dumping is a separate issue. This is not Town Forest, so the status and use by VanRy is unclear. We need to round up all items that are not town forest and clarify their status. Dan asked how

many acres are there in the MacPherson forest? 1.5 acres per horse is the norm for pasturage, but VanRy would rather have the trail system.

- **Land Resources complaint file 2012-0522**, Clinton Teague, 6 Industrial Way, Map 16 Lot 53, impacting wetlands without a permit. Pete will do a site walk.

Other Business

- **County champion ash tree in Sawyer town forest.** We are missing the map that shows it.
- **Caroline Orr forestry plan**, contract signed, work ongoing
- **91A RFI on Cogswell Farms** open space from Joyce LaFrance. Tim got email on the conservation email address and replied to the same address.
- **Trail map mailboxes**, need to order labelmaker stock. However, Paul ordered stencils that will fit and do the painting (see next).
- **Sign templates for canoe launch parking berms:** Paul showed the stencils orders that will cover the berms in 3" letters. The total for the stencils was \$74.10. Will test with some generic paint to see what will stick. Paul will do some paint tests.
- **Game camera results:** Paul has gotten a few pictures of a deer and one domestic cat. This is our first attempt at tracking what is in the area, so it will take some time to become proficient.
- **Perambulation:** ticks may be a problem. Tim will try to set something up with Plaistow, and also needs screen protectors for the GPS.
- **No meeting with Urban Tree Service** but Vegetation Control does similar work (both invasive control and land clearing). Urban Tree Service is not responding, so Tim will try other sources.
- Discussion of 2012 warrant articles: discussed last month.
- **Dan contacted NAPTA about the New England cottontail**, and did get a name on the New England Outreach that may be doing a project on it.

Internal Business

- Resignation of Michelle Veasey: job conflicts and time
- Expiring memberships, new members: Dan, Denise, and Tim are expiring.
- Town forester and tree warden: Tim noted that there is currently no town tree warden, and the tree warden has some powers to preserve special trees of unusual size, age, or historical significance. Appointing a town forester is the function of the Conservation Commission.
- Reorganization: need more members. Also, dividing the work into zones such as corresponding and recording secretary. Also we can have subcommittees: for example on the railroad committee. We need to recruit. Need a general announcement of recruiting for all town positions.
- Bylaws and land use rules: a **motion** was made that a quorum of the Conservation Commission is a majority of the serving members. Motion seconded and passed unanimously.
- Webpage update, atkinsonconservation.org: renewal for the 1-on-1 domain name (atkinsonconservation.org)
- Secretary report: A motion was made to accept the November 2011 minutes as amended. The motion was seconded and passed with one abstention. A motion was made to accept the January 2012 minutes as amended. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. A motion was made to accept the February 2012 minutes as amended. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

The next meeting of the Commission will be Monday, April 2nd, at 7:00 P.M.

Private Session: Conservation Easements / Land Purchases

Commission went into private session under RSA 91-A:3, II (a) (d) to discuss land and possible gift lands. It was moved and seconded to go into private session and passed unanimously.

Private session was closed at 9:58 by motion that passed unanimously by the five members present. Acclimation to seal by unanimous vote of five members present.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Pete McVay