

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
JULY 9, 2008

PRESENT: Bob Boynton, Chairman, Betsy Thoms, Doug Waitt, Jack Messe, Joanne Meshna

ABSENT: David McTigue, Bill Watkinson, Freddi Kazo

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Town Office.

Bob made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2008 meeting. Jack seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

At 7:45 p.m. Al Jenks, 1180 Turnpike Road, met with the Commission for the purpose of submitting an estimate of expenses for putting land into a conservation easement. Mr. Jenks noted that Attorney Crocker was his attorney and asked if there would be a conflict since Jeff is also the town attorney. Members did not think there would be a conflict. Doug made a motion to contribute \$16,000 to Mr. Jenks for easement expenses as follows: Monadnock Conservancy \$3,000, Monadnock Conservancy legal \$1,200, Monadnock Conservancy staff \$2,500, Environmental consult \$300, Appraisal \$3,000, Land survey \$6,000. Jack seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mr. Jenks stated he would like to have the easement completed this year.

Committee Reports:

Trails: Bob questioned if a Boy Scout would be working on repairing the board walk at the Nussdorfer Nature Area. The Scout that Jack had in mind to do the work has taken on another project. Jack spoke with the Scout Master in New Ipswich but at this time there are no scouts available to do a project. They might be able to do a troop project and Jack will contact the Scout Master to see if they are interested. The first priority would be to move the kiosk and replace the top.

There has been no response to two letters sent to Joel Sikkila regarding the trash on the conservation land next to his property. Bob will inspect one more time and if it is still there he will file a complaint with the Police Department for littering.

Tree Warden: Betsy inquired how much money was in her budget and how to access it. Bob explained the process and that there is \$300 in her budget. She would like to plant a tree at the cemetery to replace one that has been removed. However, Bob suggested that the cemetery trustees have money for planting of trees and she should talk to them. In order to tell if a tree is on town land or private land, Betsy needs to determine if the road is a 2 or 3 rod road. Betsy can ask the Highway Department to cut down a tree and dig a hole for a new one. She was directed to the State of New Hampshire Arborist for information. Jack suggested that five or six areas in town be earmarked for the planting of trees in order to replace ones that have been removed.

New Business: Bob had a call from Dixie Rhoads regarding the Environmental Trust Application Grant. There is \$2,000 available for projects. Members suggested the mapping of third order streams with signage. This may be a project that Ed Rogers could be involved with. Jack mentioned that a purchase and planting of trees in the town might be considered.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Meshna
Land Use Manager