

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
FEBRUARY 10, 2010

PRESENT: Bob Boynton, Chairman, David McTigue, Dixie Rhoads, Doug Waitt, Jack Messe, Joanne Meshna

ABSENT: Freddi Kazo, Bill Watkinson, Becky Doyle

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

Jack made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2010 meeting. Dixie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Lands: Bob reported that the State Forest Ranger, Neil Bilodeau, and his supervisor had inspected the timber cuttings on the Johnson property and the Kellogg property. Mr. Bilodeau reported that he could see no problems with the cuts, that best management practices had been followed and that they were good cuts.

The recently purchased property near Tophet Swamp needs to be surveyed and transferred to the Monadnock Conservancy. Bob had a quote from David McKenney for \$7,350 to do the survey. Also, the lot on Pratt Mountain owned by Barbara Rice needs to be surveyed to determine the exact acreage. An offer of \$90,000 has been made by Bob to purchase that property. Mr. McKenney submitted a quote of \$9,950 to do the survey. Members were in agreement that they wanted to go forward with the acquisition of that property. Dixie made a motion to accept the quotes from Mr. McKenney to do the surveys and to go forward with having the surveys completed. David seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Water Resources: Doug reported that the watershed project is moving along. He received a letter from the teacher involved expressing her interest in the project. Ed Rogers and Doug will be making a presentation to the class.

Trails: Doug discussed information he had received on boundary and trail markers. He will get more information on colors, prices, and different options.

New Business: Bob distributed an e-mail from Eric White from Sullivan, NH. Mr. White is looking for places to harvest mountain laurel for making spoons. Members agreed that this would be a commercial operation which is not permitted on conservation land. Bob will respond to Mr. White with that information.

An e-mail from Cindy Alzapiedi to Emily Hague at the Monadnock Conservancy and forwarded to Bob was distributed. Mrs. Alzapiedi complained about the state of the Johnson property. Emily will respond to Mrs. Alzapiedi.

A letter from Attorney Robert Taft regarding the construction of horse trails on the Kellogg property was distributed to the Commission. Bob has forwarded the letter to town counsel. Once he has been advised by Attorney Tower, members will discuss the letter and a response will be drafted.

Doug made a motion to pay Saari Excavating \$9,500 for the work done on the Johnson property. The payment will be made in two parts - \$8,000 will be paid now and \$1,500 will be paid when the final work has been done. Dixie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

David made a motion to pay Swift Corwin \$1,450 for work done on the Johnson property. Jack seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

An e-mail was sent to the DES with a copy to the Town Office from Therese McHugh, an abutter to the Tuttle property on Ashburnham Road. She questions what is being done regarding the gravel/sand/material eroding into the wetlands on her property. Mr. Tuttle had submitted an application to the state. More information was required and not received and the application has expired. Bob will contact the state to find out what they plan to do.

A dredge and fill application from the Town for replacement of a failed corrugated metal culvert on Matson Road was given to Doug for review and an application a dredge and fill application for Mascenic Regional School District was given to Bob for review.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Meshna, Secretary