

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING  
OCTOBER 12, 2011

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

PUBLIC: Jim Shultz, Carolyn Dick Mayes, Susanne Riemer

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

7:30 p.m.: Chad Branon from Fieldstone Land Consultants presented a plan to the Commission on Bruce White's gravel pit located on Turnpike Road, lot 1/15. Mr. White is planning to expand his gravel pit operations in three separate phases. There may be 3 or 4 house lots on the site in the future. An alteration of terrain permit has been filed with the State. Mr. Branon noted that when the wetlands were delineated for the permit there were some wetlands that may have been incorrectly cataloged as prime wetlands.

Bob stated that the Commission had hired someone to delineate the prime wetlands. The Commission would have to have a second opinion on Mr. Branon's findings. Mr. Branon will submit their prime wetlands delineation that will show where there is deviation from the original designation.

8:05 p.m.: Carolyn Dick Mayes, 6 Joy Lane, asked the Board for permission to do trail work on the Preston Hill Road trail. The trail is overgrown and has a lot of downed trees. The maintenance on the trail would involve cutting of trees and clearing enough debris to allow for a walking path/trail.

Members were in favor of Mrs. Mayes doing the maintenance. She will need to complete a volunteer form. She was asked to e-mail the Commission when she begins.

8:15 p.m.: Susanne Riemer, 117 Poor Farm Road, built a horse corral that the Commission had questioned if it was too close to wetlands and if runoff was flowing into the wetlands. Ms. Riemer distributed information to the Commission on steps that have been taken to protect Fox Brook and related wetlands, ecological goals of the farm and authorities consulted for information.

Bob thanked Ms. Riemer for the information provided and stated that he believed she had everything under control. Jim Shultz, Building Inspector, noted that the owners are running a model property.

**Committee Reports:**

**Water Resources:** The Board of Selectmen held a public meeting with state officials to discuss raising the water level at dam sites 19 and 35 approximately two feet. Many abutters were upset about the plans. Plans are not finalized as yet.

Dixie suggested changing some of the water testing sites where testing has yielded normal results. She suggested testing of Fox Brook.

**Old Business:** Dixie and Bob came up with a possible candidate for prime wetlands designation. The property is located on Huse Road and Bob will contact the owner.

Dixie reported that she had spoken with Brenna regarding the logo and she and Marilyn are working on it.

The Board of Assessors will meet with the Conservation Commission on November 9 to discuss Intents to Cut.

Bob will invite Zeke Somero to a meeting to discuss the sign for the conservation land.

**New Business:** The following nominations were made by the Commission:

Bob made a motion to appoint Joanne as an alternate member for a three year term. Dixie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Dixie made a motion to appoint Bob chairman for the 2011-12 year. Jack seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Jack made a motion to appoint David vice chairman for the 2011-12 year. Dixie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Dixie made a motion to appoint Joanne secretary for the 2011-12 year. David seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Members prepared the budget for 2011-12: training \$300, web page \$200, printing \$225, dues \$550, travel \$100, supplies \$100, postage \$200, water testing \$200, tree warden \$250.

The minutes of the August 10, 2011 meeting were reviewed and the following correction made: last sentence should read "The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m." Members approved the minutes as amended.

Jim Shultz discussed with the Commission how to determine if there are wetlands on a property; he is not an expert. Bob responded that the landowner would have to hire a wetlands scientist to identify wetlands. The Zoning Board can require as part of an application that the owner hire someone to delineate the wetlands.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Meshna, Secretary

