

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
NOVEMBER 10, 2010

PRESENT: Bob Boynton, Chairman, Doug Waitt, David McTigue, Dixie Rhoads, Matt Oliveira, Joanne Meshna

ABSENT: Jack Messe, Freddi Kazo, Becky Doyle

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

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

Bob announced that Bill Watkinson, in a letter submitted this evening, had resigned from the Commission.

Committee Reports:

Lands: Bob informed the Commission that he had submitted a grant application to the Rhoads Family Environmental Fund for \$45,000 for purchase of the Rice/Tuttle lot.

Doug prepared a request for proposal for signage of conservation lands for Zeke Somero along with a cost analysis form for him to use.

Communications: Hunting or not hunting on conservation lands was discussed. Matt was asked to look at dam sites 13 and 45, and the Johnson, Nussdorfer and Williams properties to determine if hunting is allowed and if the areas are posted. He was advised to check the deeds to see if hunting is mentioned as being allowed or not. Bob will check with town counsel to determine the town's liability if the land is not posted. State law mandates that there is no shooting within three hundred feet of a house.

Water Resources: Bob suggested that the Commission research and identify wetlands for prime wetlands designation. Dixie suggested the wetlands at the corner of lower Ashby Road and River Road. Bob noted that there is a large wetland off the junction of Perry and Collins Roads. Factors to consider include potential impact and biodiversity. The NRI should be reviewed to determine where endangered species are located near wetlands. Dixie and David volunteered to work on the project.

A kickoff meeting of the Furnace Brook project was held on Wednesday. Bob described to the Commission the sites to be worked on. An outreach program will be done. The house on the corner of Temple and Turnpike Roads located by Furnace Brook has been taken by the town for taxes and the town plans to demolish the house.

Old Business: The 2011-12 budget includes a line item to purchase a gate for the Johnson property in the amount of \$2,000. When Bob appeared before the Finance Advisory Committee with the budget, they questioned the amount and suggested he get local quotes and check with Vanguard. The Commission agreed to remove the amount of

\$2,000 for the gate from the budget at this time. Bob will send a letter to the Finance Advisory Committee and Board of Selectmen informing them of this decision. The Finance Advisory Committee approved the line item for dues/memberships as long as it is quid pro quo; this line includes donations to the Souhegan River Watershed and Monandock Conservancy.

New Business: Bob is being deposed on Tuesday on the Green Crow lawsuit.

The Commission funds were reviewed. Members were asked to think of land that could be protected.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Meshna, Secretary