

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD
DEERFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**October 12, 2009
MINUTES (Unofficial)**

Call to Order

7:05 pm: Chair~ Serita Frey called the Unofficial Meeting to order.

Present:

Serita Frey ~ Chair, Erick Berglund~ Treasure

Members Absent:

Wes Golomb, Kate Hartnett, Dave Linden & Diane Thompson

Visitors:

Roger Hartgen & Frank Mitchell

Approval of Minutes:

None

Citizen' s Comments:

Roger Hartgen of the Cemetery Committee proposed for the Town to buy the plot of land for sale on the hill next to Old Center Cemetery. This land, Meeting House Hill property, would make a nice future area for cemetery expansion. He suggested that eventually the cemetery would need more space with the rate of growth the Town is growing at. He added that this beautiful piece of land with an excellent view (about five acres) would be ideal for a house to be built on and if it is sold, the Town would lose the opportunity for an expansion to the Old Center Cemetery.

Chairman Frey stated that Fran Menard was at the Board of Selectmen meeting last week and spoke to Frank Mitchell, who felt that this might be something that LCHIP (New Hampshire Land & Community Heritage Investment Program)would be interested in providing some grant support for since it's an historic preservation area. Chairman Frey thinks it is worth pursuing and to see if the owners would consider waiting to sell until the Town can figure a way to purchase the land. She asked if there would be some interest in putting it under Conservation Easement or in some way writing up the deed to ensure that it would be available for cemetery expansion. Mr. Hartgen replied that research would have to be done regarding that.

Mr. Hartgen confirmed that the Cemetery Commission has no money at this time, so this would need to be appropriated money. Mr. Berglund suggested seeing if the Historical Society has any money as well, and perhaps it can be a joint effort from several groups to come up with the funding for this property.

Mr. Berglund reviewed RSA 36 2 with the attendees. Investigation would have to be done as to whether conservation funds could be used in support of this project. Mr. Berglund asked if the land could be split, so that the cemetery could use part of it for expansion and the other part for conservation.

Mr. Hartgen will follow-up with Peter Menard at Parade Realty to determine if the landowners have interest in such a proposal. He will find out if it has been surveyed as well.

Strategic Planning Update:

- Regarding the Bear Paw Conservation plan, Frank Mitchell informed the Commission that he is fulfilling the grant requirements by doing outreach/education relating to the plan. He provided a printed copy for the Deerfield Conservation Commission (DCC) to review and it can be located on the Bear Paw website.
- Frank Mitchell stated that he has been doing some outreach on the New Hampshire Wildlife Action Plan. Erick Berglund mentioned that there is interest in incorporating the Wildlife Action Plan into the Master Plan, and that this will be addressed by the new recharged Open Space Committee.

The Commission had discussion on the New Hampshire Wildlife Action Plan and the included maps therein.

- Chairman Frey stated that the Commission has talked about starting an education campaign where they go to different groups in town to talk about what they do as a Commission, and to move forward with the Town Forest Conservation Initiative.
- Chairman Frey plans to put together an email list of people in town that are interested in conservation in general and in what the Conservation Commission is doing more specifically. Frank Mitchell suggested putting some updates in the Communicator and the Forum. Chairman Frey stated that the Commission has an article with photos coming out in the print addition of the Forum in November and she will look into having an article put in the Communicator. She suggested that in January and February (or when it's approved) they should start putting out very specific articles about this particular warrant article.
- Erick Berglund, Treasurer, referred to the voting guide; statement of warrant articles and the explanations.

Land Conservation:

- Regarding the Town Forests Easement project, Chairman Frey confirmed that an advisory warrant article needs to be drafted for the approval by the Board of Selectmen. Frank Mitchell will draft the article and send it to Cindy Heon to have the town counsel review it before the Board of Selectmen receive it (by early December so that it can be voted on before the January deadline).
- Frank Mitchell advised that a date needs to be set for the Freese Town Forest monitoring, which is about a two hour walk through the boundaries. Saturday, October 31, 2009 at 9:00am was set for the 1st Annual Monitoring of Freese Town Forest.
- Frank Mitchell suggested that the website should make reference to the Town Forests (trail guide exists for most of those already) and include maps with their descriptions.

Regulated Wetlands:

- Frank Mitchell provided follow-up on a property (Tax map 410, Lot 75). This property has 62 acres and lies between Susan & Michael Green's property and the end of Babb Road. It has three wetland areas on it; one of which drains into the Freese Town Forests, and a stream coming out of a big wetland in the Steven's property. There is no road frontage and the owner, who resides in Moultonborough, would like to sell it. Mr. Mitchell proposes to give him a call to inform him that the Conservation Commission is interested in hearing more about it.

Financial Officer's Report:

- Conservation Treasurer, Erick Berglund, informed the Commission that their 2010 Budget of \$2,428.00 was approved by the Board of Selectmen.
- Mr. Berglund stated that as of September, the balance of the Conservation Fund is \$283,092.57.

New Business:

None

Old Business:

None

Announcements & Correspondence:

Serita Frey reviewed with the Commission the recent correspondence letters from the Department of Environmental Service (DES):

- Complete Forestry Notification letter to Melinda Geddes (File #2008-01423); included a hand written sheet attached to the front of the letter already received stated to add to Melinda Geddes file that Robert Car is no longer the logger on this project. He has been replaced by two other loggers who will complete the improvement harvest.
- Notification of Trail Development (Bureau of Trails); land owner permission for bridge construction in Bear Brook State Park. The identified trails that need bridges and boardwalks are heavily used by these trails; the proposed bridge and boardwalk design will enhance the safety and natural integrity of the trails.
- Complete Forestry Notification letter (File #2009-02156) to Dick & Delores Holland on 32 Cotton Road, Deerfield, NH; acknowledging receipt of their submission notification of Forest Management or Timber Harvest Activities having minimum wetland impact.
- Shoreland Impact Permit 2009-00878; regarding the water body of Northwood Lake, 9 Lakeside Drive, Deerfield, NH (Tax Map 401, Lot 10). To impact effectively 4,000 square feet to replace a pre-existing primary structure and install a subsurface system.

- Wetland fill application for the land of Daniel Livingston & Allison Conner on South Road (Tax Map 420, Lot 17); signed by the applicant and the Town Clerk. It was noted that a significant area of wetland is to be filled for this development. Chairman Frey is to contact DCC member Kate Hartnett, a Planning Board member, for her comments and suggestions for DCC response and actions.

Action Items:

None

Citizens Comments:

None

Adjournment:

8:55pm

MOTION: Serita Frey moved to adjourn.

SECONDED: Erick Berglund seconded the motion.

VOTE: Chairman Serita Frey called for the vote.

All in Favor