

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD
DEERFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
June 14, 2010
MINUTES**

Call to Order:

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

Present:

Serita Frey, Diane Thompson, Dave Linden, Kate Hartnett & Erick Berglund

Members Absent:

Wes Golomb

Visitors:

Fred McGarry attended to discuss donation of a conservation easement on his property. DCC will request that the BearPaw Board vote to approve the project. It was noted that while other land trusts could be considered, BearPaw is the land trust of choice for this project, because they will do a better job for less money, and because the McGarry property is within BearPaw's priority land conservation area. DCC members recalled that BearPaw has leveraged Town funds for conservation projects by securing both state and federal grants to assist with purchase and transaction costs. For example, BearPaw obtained almost \$200,000 in grant support to assist the Town in acquiring the Freese Town Forest and the Clifford conservation easement.

Frank Mitchell was present to participate in the discussion of the McGarry easement and to take part in the discussion of the Town Forest project. Mr. Mitchell noted that the McGarry property is of high conservation value because of its proximity to Freese's Pond and other conservation lands.

Citizen's Comments:

None

Minutes:

A motion was made and unanimously passed to accept the previous DCC meeting minutes for Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr and May 2010 with the following revisions:

Kate Hartnett will contact PSNH for more information regarding the transmission line upgrade project (added to April 2010 minutes).

Erick Berglund noted that Al Jaeger's name was misspelled in the January 2010 minutes.

Financial Officer's Report:

Treasurer, Erick Berglund reported that the balance of the Conservation Fund as of May 31, 2010 was \$349,485.43.

Strategic Planning Update:

Chair Serita Frey summarized DCC accomplishments of the past year relative to the DCC strategic plan that was outlined on June 22, 2009:

- Open Space Plan is near completion and will be presented to the Planning Board this summer
- Developed email list-serve for Deerfield residents interested in receiving regular DCC updates
- Finished inventory of Town conservation properties
- Recruited volunteer (Frank Mitchell) to lead effort to permanently protect Town Forests
- Warrant Article on Town ballot seeking town support for permanently protecting Town Forests (passed by overwhelming majority—76%)

Land Conservation:

McGarry easement and Town Forest protection project as discussed above.

Regulated Wetlands:

DCC received a letter dated May 24, 2010 from the NH Department of Environmental Services acknowledging the receipt of a Standard Dredge and Fill application from the NHDES Dam Bureau for work on Gulf Road in Deerfield.

New Business:

A motion was made and the DCC voted unanimously to adopt the Town's bid process for use to solicit bids for expenditures to the Conservation Fund for which the DCC has the authority and responsibility to manage pursuant RSA 36-A:4.

Old Business:

None

Announcements & Correspondence:

None

Adjournment:

9:15 pm

ACTION ITEMS

Serita Frey: request updated cost estimate from BearPaw and draft Memorandum of Understanding for McGarry easement project; request that BearPaw Board vote on the project; notify Select Board of project; contact Charlie Moreno for update on Town Forest Management Plan.

Diane Thompson: Modify the bid policy for the DCC

Kate Hartnett: finalize and submit an article for the print edition of the Forum

The Minutes were Recorded, Transcribed and Respectfully Submitted by Serita Frey. Pending Approval by the Deerfield Conservation Committee. Final revisions to these minutes will be contained in the minutes for the following meeting.