

Adopted: January 11, 2006 – As amended

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
CONWAY CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
December 14, 2005**

A meeting of the Conway Conservation Commission convened at 6:30 p.m. at the Whitaker Homesite in North Conway, NH. Present were: Chair, Paul Pinkham; Rob Adair, David Weathers, Chuck Broomhall, Phil Haynes, and Alternate Linda Kearney.

The Chair appointed Ms. Kearney as a full voting member.

**Approval of Minutes: Motion was made by Mr. Adair, seconded by Mr. Broomhall, that the Minutes of the November 9th meeting be approved as submitted. Carried by unanimous vote.**

**Public Comment:** None.

**Reports:**

Mr. Johnson could not be present, but had provided two documents: (1) updated summary of accomplishments for each of the properties. Mr. Weathers felt this to be a good tool to take before the Budget Committee as a reference. Copies will be sent to members. (2) The Management Summary was prepared in 2002. Mr. Johnson reviews it annually to aid in determining what projects to recommend for the forthcoming year. It is updated every five years. It is a quick view of a 4, 5 or 6 year time frame of what we have and what drives our budget.

Tree Farm –Mr. Johnson's report referenced the Town of Conway having been nominated for Tree Farmer of the State.

Jeff Lougee could not be present. He had previously reported that TNC is proposing to sell the Bear Paw Properties land in the Green Hills. Suggestion has been made that the Town possibly would be interested. Mr. Adair noted that Upper Saco Valley Land Trust may be holding easements on it.

**Treasurer's Report:** In lieu of Ms. Lyman's report, Mr. Pinkham reported on his meeting with the Town's Finance Director: We still have \$1,000+ left in our account which we will encumber and use for the stabilizing work on Armstrong Alley.

Mr. Broomhall reported that something has been done at the railroad tracks. Mr. Pinkham explained the Town has relieved the CCC of that burden, it is in their hands and they will handle all discussion with DOT.

**Selectmen's Report:** Mr. Weathers met last week with Paul DegliAngeli, Mr. & Mrs. Kearney, and Thorne Surveys regarding the Sylvester project on East Conway Road. They are proposing a road through the floodplain. It was basically a brainstorming

session, nothing has yet been finalized. They are going to lower the elevation of the road, and the State is requiring an additional culvert which had not been planned originally.

Mr. Weathers reported the State has responded with notification that Howard Dickinson, who was planning to do a cutting job, can go forward with that. He noted this is common notification for any forestry work where wetlands are involved.

A dredge and fill application for a culvert at the Macomber farm on Eaton Road has been submitted. It will be a subdivision and the owner is planning to put in a new driveway and replacing an old culvert for a single lot in the wooded area beyond the field.

Mr. Weathers noted the Schiavi Intent To Cut initially looked as though it would be a substantial cut, but is actually just a management cut, not a clear cut.

Mr. Weathers still has not heard back from Don Lyford on the Schiavi property status. He assumes the Design Review Committee will be meeting next month and he will try to get an answer from him then.

It was reported that Messrs. Pinkham and Weathers had met with Mr. DegliAngeli regarding the Rt. 16 reconstruction work, their concern being the parking along Shedd Woods area – the curbing does not run the full length and there should be places for cars to park along the road there. Their other complaint was the rough job the construction company had done, the equipment parked there, etc. They inquired as to what the State's plan is to restore the cleared right-of-way area. Mr. DegliAngeli has expressed the need to have the State put a landscape plan together. Mr. Pinkham suggested we make an official complaint from the CCC, through the Board of Selectmen, asking for their endorsement, noting we have spent quite a bit of money maintaining that area, getting a picnic area there, and they have pretty much disregarded that. Messrs. Pinkham and Weathers will draft a communiqué which also will question if the State owes the CCC money for the trees they took out of Shedd Woods.

Whitaker Trail Plan – It was agreed the CCC needs to put a plan together for work it wants done for the next year.

Signs – Mr. Broomhall reported he has given the go ahead to the KHS teacher for trail signs and will check the progress of that on Thursday.

Budget – Forest and Wetlands Management Detail: Mr. Pinkham proceeded to go through the budget noting all of those things included in the Forest Management Plan, with the exception of establishing lines on Whitaker, and the railroad crossing which the town has picked up for us, are included. There is nothing included for the educational programs. \$1500 is needed for stabilization of Armstrong Alley (\$1,000 is to be encumbered from 2005). Trail rebuilding was reduced to \$4500 from \$5000. It was Mr. Adair's opinion that repairs to the entire Perimeter Trail could not be done for \$4500, but perhaps a segment of it could be done.

It was noted there was erosion on the western side of the power lines – they went in recently and did a “band aid” on it. Mr. Broomhall noted the power company was doing some cutting in there and questioned why they stopped where they did. There was no answer.

2006 Budget - \$1500 is traditionally what we have been spending on Consulting and Management. \$3,000 has been put back in for trail work and mapping as The Nature Conservancy has discovered a way around the financing. Jeff Lougee is working with the Town Manager on a work agreement for Black Cap and Pudding Pond. CCC would share the expense of the trail maps. There needs to be also an agreement with the State to do something about the parking lot.

Estimated Income: Fish & Game grant \$660; Hubbard-Davis has money intended for maintenance of Hubbard-Davis property or for acquisition of land. CCC will do the work out of that account and reimburse itself (\$1860).

Mr. Haynes questioned when the proposed budget would go before the Budget Committee as he feels some of the CCC members should be present.

**Kearsarge Road Gate** – It was the consensus there is no need for boulders there. Upon question of whose trailer is parked there, it was stated that it belongs to the owner of the property on which it sits.

**Easement Funding** - Mr. Pinkham said we need to work with the town to prepare and execute Conservation Easements for CCC land that the town owns.

Rules & Regulations Document – It was noted this has yet to be addressed. Members will review and discuss at the January meeting. Mr. Broomhall pointed out under Violations fine for 1<sup>st</sup> offense is listed as \$25, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$50, 3<sup>rd</sup> \$100; however, the posted sign says \$1000. Mr. Weathers suggested checking with the Police Chief as to what is enforceable.

Mr. Haynes noted walking dogs in Whitaker Woods has become an issue and we need to make sure someone is keeping up on this. Mr. Broomhall commented that most of the people who are there walking their dogs are not aware that it does any harm, it is those dogs that are on a leash that are causing a problem and do not “do their business” in the woods. Mr. Haynes suggested providing bigger signs.

Mr. Broomhall reported he had received an e-mail because someone was upset that Quarry Hill had been blocked off. Mr. Pinkham has communicated to them that they are free to walk anywhere; however, we are blocking some trails for maintenance purposes.

**Kearsarge Road Gate** – Mr. Pinkham reported this was restored/rebuilt.

**Next Meeting Date:** The next meeting will be held on January 11, 2006.

**Motion was made by Mr. Broomhall, seconded by Mr. Weathers and carried, that the meeting be adjourned at 7:10 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Currier, Recording Secretary