

**MINUTES OF MEETING
CONWAY CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

January 09, 2008

A meeting of the Conway Conservation Commission convened at 6:34 pm at the Whitaker Meeting House in North Conway, NH. Present were: Chair, Paul Pinkham; Rob Adair, Vice Chair; Dan Lucy; Alternate, and Linda Kearney; and Acting Recording Secretary, Karen Hallowell.

The Chair appointed Alternate, Linda Kearney, as a full voting member.

Charles Broomhall, Philip Haynes, Conrad Briggs (Alternate), and Selectmen's Representative, C. David Weathers were not present.

Carol Lyman, Treasurer, arrived at 6:38 p.m.

Approval of Minutes – November 14, 2007 **Rob Adair moved, seconded by Linda Kearney, to accept the minutes of November 14, 2007 as written. The motion carried unanimously.**

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Reports:

a. Don Johnson – Don Johnson was not present. No report was made.

b. Joe Berry/Eastern Slope Inn Resort – Mr. Berry joined the meeting along with Sheila Duane, Diane Smith, Burr Phillips and Barry Keith. Mr. Berry prefaced the matter by advising he was here for a preapplication discussion and not a formal application at this point to discuss an upcoming project.

(Carol Lyman arrived at this point -6:37 p.m.)

Mr. Berry presented and reviewed plans of a proposed project for a new building on the Eastern Slope Inn property with the Commission. Mr. Berry reviewed that several years ago the Whitaker Suites, parking, and tunnel were added to the property and now they have been looking at the rest of the land. They have been working along with the North Conway Country Club who has a maintenance building backing the property and have had discussions with them in that they are going to also do something with that building. Mr. Berry further advised that he has also been working with the Conway Scenic Railroad in trying to come up with a plan for this area as well. Mr. Berry next advised that they are looking to focus on a small area on the southern tip of the land, on the southern tip of the parking area near Whitaker Suites. Mr. Berry stated he would like to put another building in this area and this would be a logical continuation of what they have

been doing. Mr. Berry advised that the Conway Scenic Railroad is supportive of the proposed plan and they will be doing a boundary line adjustment. Mr. Berry further advised that the North Conway Country Club is also supportive and they will be doing some improvements as well.

Mr. Berry next advised there will be some wetlands impact – a small amount, but they will be dealing with the State Wetlands Bureau and the Conservation Commission in this regard. Barry Keith next reviewed a plan with the Commission with existing conditions. The plans showed existing ponds, wetland areas, seeps, a debris dump with old maintenance items, etc. Mr. Keith also reviewed other areas with some poor drainage, etc.

Mr. Keith next advised that he will be working with Burr Phillips and Diane Smith to develop an access plan.

Mr. Keith and Mr. Phillips next reviewed a plan for a proposed 9 unit (27 door) building. Mr. Keith and Mr. Phillips also reviewed existing buildings and the existing parking areas as well with the Commission. Mr. Keith and Mr. Barry further reviewed where the railroad and existing bankings are located in comparison to the building. Mr. Phillips advised that in the proposed plan they have tucked the building into the slope as much as they could and put parking on one side.

Mr. Berry advised they now plan to meet with Wetlands in Concord and once through that process they will come back before the Conservation Commission. Mr. Berry stated that in the meantime should the Commission have any questions on the project to please let them know. Mr. Berry further added that they anticipate taking this plan to the Planning Board in the summer of 2008 and building late 2008.

c. Jeff Lougee/The Nature Conservancy – Mr. Lougee advised he is delinquent in getting an invoice to the Town of Conway. Fifteen signs were made for the town and the total invoice is \$1000. Mr. Lougee showed the Commission members an example of one of the signs, which were on wood with black writing. Mr. Lougee advised that some of the signs will go up now and the rest will go up in the summer.

Mr. Lougee next advised The Nature Conservancy will be talking about the Saco River and focusing on land protection along the Saco. They have a number of properties identified as priorities and will start to do some outreach to see if there is some interest in conservation. They will be doing this in Conway and also up toward Bartlett as well. Mr. Lougee advised this is very preliminary and hope to have good news to bring to the Commission on this in the future.

Mr. Lougee next reported that he will have to start on a new MOU for next year but does not have anything on this for today.

Ms. Kearney questioned Mr. Lougee on where the signs were made that he discussed earlier. Mr. Lougee advised they were made at the AMC. Mr. Adair questioned if they were sealed with something and Mr. Lougee replied in the affirmative. Ms. Lyman questioned if there has ever been a problem with the signs being stolen. Mr. Lougee replied in the negative. Mr. Pinkham advised that there has been some trouble with the Pudding Pond sign which has been missing several times. Mr. Lougee advised that they can hang this sign higher than.

d. Treasurer's Report – Carol Lyman/Carol Lyman advised she did not have a Treasurer's report for this meeting. Ms. Lyman advised she will have a report for the next meeting.

e. Selectmen's Report – David Weathers/Selectmen's Representative, David Weathers was not present at the meeting due to another commitment. No Selectmen's report was made.

f. Member Roundtable – No discussion.

Other Business

a. Acquisition Criteria/USVLT relationship – Mr. Pinkham asked Mr. Adair if we can formalize the relationship with USVLT with an agreement. Mr. Adair advised that they haven't talked about an agreement but they have talked about partnering. Mr. Pinkham suggested a possible letter of agreement with the USVLT in the future. Mr. Adair advised that he can pursue a letter of agreement.

Mr. Adair next advised that his term expires on the Land Trust Board this spring and he may not continue on with the Board.

b. Whitaker Trail Plan/work progress – There was no discussion on this agenda item.

c. Whitaker Management Plan ('08) – Mr. Pinkham suggested that since it looks like the Bypass section that would have gone through Whitaker Woods may not happen now, the Commission should consider readdressing this area. The Commission might be able to move this up on our plan.

d. Whitaker Signs – Mr. Pinkham questioned if the signs have been installed. Mr. Adair responded in the affirmative and added that they look good.

e. Whitaker Video – There was no discussion on this agenda item.

f. Wetland Applications – Mr. Pinkham reported one Wetland Application has been received regarding a property in the Rockhouse Mountain section of

Conway with a seasonal brook that someone wants build a hydro plant on. There was no further discussion or action taken at this time.

g. Design Review Committee – There was no discussion on this agenda item.

h. Rules & Regulations – There was no discussion on this agenda item.

Next Meeting – February 13, 2008

Adjourn - Ms. Kearny moved, seconded by Mr. Adair to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting concluded at 7:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen J. Hallowell
Recording Secretary