

**MINUTES OF MEETING
CONWAY CONSERVATION COMMISSION
April 11, 2012**

The March meeting of the Conway Conservation Commission convened at 6:32 p.m. at the Whitaker Homesite in North Conway, NH. Members present were: Paul Pinkham, Carol Lyman, Rob Adair, and Larry Huemmler.

Linda Kearney joined the meeting at 6:45 p.m. and Dan Lucy joined the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES- MARCH 14, 2012

Mr. Huemmler moved, seconded by Ms. Lyman, to accept the minutes of 3/14/12 as written. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

REPORTS

FLI/ Don Johnson – Mr. Johnson reported the last timber sale at Pudding Pond was 12/31/11. They covered about 50 acres in that sale and got good pine and other woods. They were in for about five or six weeks. The net stumpage was \$24,549.71 and 10% of that figure would go to the town for timber tax. He felt the sale went well. We also escrowed \$2,000 for stabilizing the landing and truck road. We have not done this work yet and he does not feel it is right to do the seeding in April. Mr. Weathers agreed he wouldn't want to see it seeded yet. Mr. Weathers stated the first or second week of May would be better. Mr. Johnson advised he will do this in May and he may also want to bring a drag with them to get this area as smooth as possible.

Mr. Johnson next stated in looking at the upcoming budget, he needs to put together a work agreement for Town Manager, Earl Sires.

Mr. Johnson next stated that he was hoping to see a schematic tonight with regard to the request by the Bike Club for the pump track. It was his understanding they want to improve this and make it larger. Mr. Weathers stated they want to expand the track where the landing is located. Mr. Johnson stated there are conflicting uses no doubt but he won't be using the landing for a while. He was, however, hoping to see the plan tonight. Mr. Pinkham stated that we expected to see or hear something by tonight as the club is working on this. Mr. Pinkham stated that we could endorse the concept tonight but also state that we need to see the plan. There was no action taken.

Mr. Johnson next stated that he hoped to also hear from the USVLT tonight. Mr. Pinkham advised that they may not be attending the meeting tonight. Mr. Pinkham further stated that he feels this Commission needs to have a working session with them in the future.

There was next a review by Don Johnson regarding fees. Mr. Jonson advised \$17,329 is the net stumpage. Ms. Lyman questioned which fund this would go into. Mr. Pinkham advised that he believes it goes into the land acquisition fund.

TNC/ Wink Lees - Mr. Lees was not present and no discussion was held.

Treasurer's Report/Carol Lyman - Ms. Lyman distributed the Treasurers report for yearend 2011 and reviewed same briefly with the commission members. A copy of same is attached hereto.

Selectmen's Report/David Weathers - Mr. Weathers reported the Board of Selectmen held discussion on whether to buy the 11.5 acre parcel the State of NH is selling along the North-South Road. Mr. Weathers advised that he held out on voting on this matter as he wanted to take another look at the parcel. Mr. Weathers next advised that he does not see the benefit to the Town of Conway to hold this land and he feels it should go back on the tax rolls.

Mr. Pinkham stated that discussion was held at a recent Conservation Commission meeting about acquiring the property, selling the top lots for development, and keeping the lower end of the property for conservation land. Mr. Pinkham stated we need to get more information as to what is buildable on the lot. Mr. Pinkham stated he feels that we need to look at this information before making a decision.

Member Roundtable – Mr. Pinkham reported that someone is removing bolts from the placque that is on the rock at the Abenaki site. Mr. Pinkham presented pictures of same (copy attached). Mr. Pinkham next advised that the police are looking into this matter.

Mr. Huemmler reported the Saco River Access Committee met last week but he was unable to attend. It is his understanding that Peter Gagnon went to a North Conway Water Precinct meeting to discuss access. Mr. Weathers advised that he spoke with Mr. Gagnon today and they are still looking for ways to utilize Hussey field if they can for canoe access. Mr. Weathers further stated that people may wonder why we would do anything in this area for businesses. He is opposed to doing anything other than maintaining healthy grass. Ms. Lyman agreed. Mr. Weathers next advised that we haven't made any progress on this issue from last year. He also does not think that the canoe companies have talked with Joe Berry about access. Mr. Huemmler advised that Bob Tagliaferri advised him that he did speak with Joe Berry and Mr. Berry was not clear on what he wants to do in this area. Mr. Weathers further added that they (the canoe companies) have not checked with Shartner's yet either. They only want to use Hussey Field and they need to check all of their bases.

Ms. Lyman stated there is a big pine tree down in Shedd Woods. Mr. Weathers advised the town is aware of this and someone is lined up to take the tree out. This person will take out the tree at no charge to the town and, also, return some hardwood.

OTHER BUSINESS

USVLT Presentation – The USVLT was not present and no discussion was held.

North Conway Community Center Update – Mr. Weathers advised the second public hearing on the request for the boundary line adjustment by the North Conway Community Center with the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for 4/17/12.

Town Conservation Easements – There was no discussion on this agenda item.

Saco River Committee - There was no discussion on this agenda item.

Membership - There was no discussion on this agenda item.

Whitaker Trail Plan - There was no discussion on this agenda item.

Whitaker Video - There was no discussion on this agenda item.

Wetland Applications - Mr. Weathers reported that two notices have been received. With regard to Balsam Ridge Lodge (the old Elks club) they have a shoreline application submitted. They have to get a permit because they are a certain distance from the Saco. The other application is for a Standard Dredge and Fill Application which was submitted at the end of February or early March. This is for David and Ann Gould on Cranmore Circle Extension and is in regard to a driveway location.

NEXT MEETING

It was agreed the next meeting is scheduled for May 9, 2012.

ADJOURN

At 7:15 pm, **Ms. Weathers moved, seconded by Ms. Lyman, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Karen J Hollowell
Recording Secretary