

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION
SEPTEMBER 18, 2001
MINUTES**

6:30 PM – Chairman Owen opened the meeting and observed a moment of silence to remember those lost and injured in the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001.

Present were Owen, Corwin, Morrison, Auman, Clements and O'Connor.

Public Hearing – Malagodi – 85 Hubbard Lane

Clerk Clements read the public hearing notice to consider the Notice of Intent submitted by Richard Malagodi to replace existing septic system and construct addition to existing building at 85 Hubbard Lane on Assessors' Lot 132/6.

Present were Mr. and Mrs. Malagodi (owners) and Bernard Hamill (H-Star Engineering).

Mr. Hamill made the presentation.

The members had walked the site on Saturday.

Member Morrison moved to close the hearing. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Minutes

Chairman Owen moved to accept the minutes of August 28, 2001 as written. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Vice chairman Corwin moved to accept the minutes of August 14, 2001 as amended (on file in the Commission Office). The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Certificate of Compliance – Sawtell Drive – Caldwell Smith Subdivision 169-564

Member Morrison moved to issue a COC for the roadway and drainage system in the Caldwell Smith Subdivision.

Clerk Clements wanted it noted that he was not happy with the replication: it was not done properly.

The motion was seconded and passed 5-1. Chairman Owen abstained and the COC was signed.

6:50 PM Public Hearing – Annese – 311 Forge Village Road

Clerk Clements read the public hearing notice to consider the Notice of Intent submitted by Steve Annese to replace a single family house and septic system and necessary grading at 311 Forge Village Road on Assessors' Lot 128/3.

Mr. Annese was present with Shawn Kligenner from Raymond Engineering.

The Commission had visited the site on Saturday.

This application comes under the new bylaw but there is no additional disturbance of undisturbed land.

Member Morrison moved to close the hearing. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

7:00 PM Request for Determination – Town of Groton Highway Dept – Broadmeadow Road Culvert

Clerk Clements read the public notice to consider the Request for Determination submitted by the Town of Groton Highway Department to repair a culvert on Broadmeadow Road.

Highway Surveyor Thomas Delaney was present and explained that the culvert was going in the same location as the present culvert that was falling apart.

The Commission had visited the site on Saturday.

Member Morrison moved to issue a negative determination. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Request for Determination – Town of Groton Highway Department – Raddin Road

Clerk Clements read the public notice to consider the Request for Determination submitted by the Town of Groton Highway Department to repair a culvert on Raddin Road at Assessors' Lot 230/73.

Mr. Delaney explained that it is presently a stone culvert that has deteriorated over the years.

The members visited the site on Saturday.

Clerk Clements asked if it was an historic bridge.

Mr. Delaney said he had Isabel Beal (Town Historian) look at it and she said it is not.

Member Morrison moved to issue a negative determination. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Sargisson Beach Retaining Wall

Mr. Delaney was asked to contact Robert Lacombe to get boulders from Rocky Hill to be used to repair the retaining wall at Sargisson Beach.

7:10 PM Public Hearing – Murray – 70 Longley Road

Clerk Clements read the public hearing notice to consider the Notice of Intent submitted by Roger and Patricia Murray for an addition to existing house and replacement of existing septic system at 70 Longley Road on Assessors' Lot J-27.

Mr. Murray and Kevin Ritchie (Diversified Engineering) were present.

Mr. Ritchie made the presentation.

The members visited the site on Saturday.

Member Morrison moved to close the hearing. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

7:20 PM Request for Determination – Enwright – 85 Boathouse Road

Clerk Clements read the public notice to consider the Request for Determination submitted by Mark Enwright to construct an addition to existing house at 85 Boathouse Road on Assessors' Lot 129/208.

Mr. Enwright was present and explained that the addition would be on one sonatube on an area made of concrete. The sonatube location would be dug by hand. There would be no additional disturbance.

Member Morrison moved to issue a negative determination with the conditions that appropriate recharge structures would be required for the new roof line and hay bales and/or silt fence must be on site in case of unforeseen weather for digging of sonatube.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Discussion – Walker Property – 126 Chicopee Row

Vice chairman Corwin stepped down since she is an abutter to the Walker property.

Patrick Fairbairn called the office representing the Walker/Cox families who are interested in subdividing their property. This was once considered for a school site and the wetlands had been flagged.

Mr. Fairbairn wanted to know if the Commission would accept the wetland boundaries in the RDA for that project or did they have to file a new application. The original application expired September 9, 2001.

Ms. Corwin said logging took out some of the flags.

Member Morrison said he was uncomfortable approving it without a site walk.

Mr. Fairbairn will be contacted and a site walk will be held before the Commission makes a decision to accept the earlier plan or require a new filing.

7:30 PM Public Hearing (con't) – Pittenger – 23 Radio Road

Clerk Clements read the public hearing continuation notice to consider the Notice of Intent submitted by Brian Pittenger to replace an existing retaining wall at 23 Radio Road on Assessors' Lot 9L4556A.

Mr. Pittenger was present.

Vice chairman Corwin expressed concern that putting the wall next to the original wall would be filling 1-1 ½ ft of wetland.

Clerk Clements said if the work was done during the drawdown the old wall could be removed and the new wall put in the same place.

Mr. Pittenger said he would be building the new wall by hand, which would cause little disturbance to the lake and if he had to remove the old wall he would have to bring in heavy equipment to remove the concrete wall that is already there and he felt this would cause a lot of disturbance to the area.

After some discussion it was decided to allow the old wall to remain in place. It would be addressed in the OOC.

Vice chairman Corwin moved to close the hearing. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Request for Extension of OOC for H & V, Inc – 169-641

The Commission received a letter from Hollingsworth and Vose, Inc. requesting an extension of three years to the OOC 169-641 to allow for the annual removal of boards from its dam on the Squannacook River.

Clerk Clements moved to issue a three year extension. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Groton Lakes Association – Invitation for Boat Ride Site Inspection of Lake

The Groton Lakes Association would like the members to go on another boat ride to observe the increase over the summer months, of the weeds in Lost Lake and Knops Pond.

The members decided to go at 11AM on Saturday September 22. Mr. Eger will be called to confirm this time and date.

Knowles Siding Conservation Land at Whistle Post Road

Bruce Dubey was present. He had been asked to mow the property for the Commission but had some questions.

How good does the Commission want it to look? Should the detention pond be mowed or only the upland?

After some discussion, Member Morrison moved to authorize mowing of Knowles Siding by tractor, removal of logs and some fine mowing along the edge of the road and path to the Rail Trail. Leave the detention basin and pond alone. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Shattuck/Baddacook Conservation Property on Martins Pond Road

Leslie Chaput (wife of Chairman Owen) was present to speak to the Commission about using the Shattuck/Baddacook Property for pasture for her horses.

Chairman Owen stepped down and left the room during the discussion.

Vice chairman Corwin expressed concerns for the blue spotted salamanders on the site.

Member Morrison suggested staking out the area of concern.

Ms. Chaput said it would be for personal use, not commercial and that she would put in an electric fence with a sign clearly stating it is an electric fence.

The horses would be taken from the area every night to be sheltered at the Chaput property.

Ms. Chaput submitted a proposal in writing.

Vice chairman Corwin moved to accept the written proposal and allow the use of the Shattuck/Baddacook property for pasture for horses.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Eliades Conservation Land

Bruce Dubey was present to discuss the maintenance of the Eliades Conservation Land. There are two parcels that need to be mowed. One is at Pacer Way off Old Ayer Road; the other is near James Brook on Smith Street.

Member Morrison asked if the area could be hayed.

Mr. Dubey said there are too many detention ponds on the site.

Vice chairman Corwin moved to mow it once a year to keep it clear or twice a year if needed for pedestrian traffic. If hayed, twice a year.

Chairman Owen said if anyone was interested in it for agriculture, it may have to be mowed in the spring.

Vice chairman Corwin said she doesn't want it mowed before August.

If anyone is interested in haying it, the subject can be revisited at that time.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Deerhaven Conservation Land

Ben Black had volunteered to be a steward of the property, but he has since suffered an illness and it was not clear if he intended to remain the steward.

Member Morrison will contact him.

Vice chairman Corwin requested that it be put on the next site walk. She was not familiar with the property.

Ames Meadow

Member Morrison will contact Christopher Shattuck to see if he is interested in haying the 17 acres along the Nashua River. Mr. Shattuck had expressed interest in the past.

Balcom Estates – Spencer Circle

There is a strip of Conservation Land at Balcom Estates that connects conservation land on Maple Avenue to the Senior Center and the Sportsman Club. It should be kept open for hiking.

Member Morrison moved to have it mowed once a year to maintain it as a path.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

O’Neill Conservation Land – Main Street

Chairman Owen suggested having the O’Neill Conservation Land mowed once a year.

Member Morrison moved to mow it twice a year. The motion failed. 2 yes, 3 no and 1 abstain.

Member O’Connor moved to have it mowed once a year. The motion was seconded and passed 5 to 1. Member Morrison voted no.

McLains Woods Conservation Land

The Trails Committee would like to have the meadow mowed at the McLains Woods Conservation area.

The members were not familiar with the meadow. A site walk will be held before any decision is made concerning this parcel.

OOC Written for Pittenger – 23 Radio Road – 169-805

Member Morrison moved significance, regular and special conditions for Brian Pittenger, 23 Radio Road, DEP # 169-805. The motions were seconded and passed unanimously. The OOC is on file in the Commission Office.

OOC Written for Batten Woods – 169-768

Chairman Owen moved significance, regular and special conditions for Orion Homes, Inc. for Batten Woods Village off Forge Village Road, DEP # 169-768.

The motions were seconded and passed unanimously.

The OOC is on file in the Commission office.

Quarterly reports will be required.

Member Morrison suggested that the Commission inspect it quarterly.

Vacancy

Member Andrea Mischel had submitted a letter of resignation. It was suggested that associate Alix Chace could fill the vacancy.

Member O’Connor will ask Ms. Chace if she is interested in the position.

OOC Written for Murray – 169-807

Vice chairman Corwin moved significance, regular and special conditions for Roger and Patricia Murray, 70 Longley Road, DEP # 169-807.

The motions were seconded and passed unanimously.

The OOC is on file in the Commission Office.

9:45 PM With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth A. Montgomery
Conservation Assistant