

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
NOVEMBER 27, 2001  
MINUTES**

**7:00 PM** The meeting was called to order by Chairman Owen.  
Present were Auman, Morrison, O'Connor, Corwin, Clements and Owen.  
Absent was Chace.

**Discussion – Land Management**

Member O'Connor reported she and Evan Owen, Craig Auman, Gordon Row, Stephanie Janis and Beth Montgomery had a tour of some of the Town's conservation areas on Saturday.

Member Morrison remarked that he observed the three new signs on Conservation Commission land and thanked Craig Auman and Bruce Clements for installing them at Ripley Forest, Baddacook Woods and the Williams property.

Member O'Connor reported that there was debris from a demolished building on the Shattuck property on Martins Pond Road that should be removed. The Selectmen are responsible for this property and they will be asked to take care of it.

Member O'Connor reported that the primary objective of the land management group is to create a reporting system. The Commission wants to improve the visibility of its parcels, work with the Trail Committee to improve access, place information on the website with a list of the properties and how to get there, get the word out about the Commission and its properties and public relations.

Melinda Green suggested on site at Shattuck, that perhaps some of the brush could be burned. Maybe we could advertise to get volunteers.

Ms. Montgomery reported that the Conservation Restriction for the Shattuck property was never submitted to EOEA. A draft had been sent to the members several months ago for approval, but was never followed up. Another copy will be sent to members for their review before sending to EOEA.

**Awarding Contract for Sargisson Beach Retaining Wall**

Member Morrison moved to award the contract to Nelson McCormack, Wildfire Construction, to build the 49 ft retaining wall at the Point at Sargisson Beach for \$23,800

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

**Discussion- Wendy Good – Trails Committee**

Ms. Good was present to ask permission to place more posts on the Wiewel Conservation Land off Skyfields Drive to make the path clear to hikers and keep them off private property. The posts will be about 30 ft apart. She will speak to the abutters about marking the correct path. Both homeowners are mowing the path.

A couple of sets of posts should be put in to clearly define CC territory.

Ms. Good would also like to put posts on the Integrity Way Conservation Land. They found the bounds. The Commission gave permission for posts.

Ms. Good would also like to know if the Commission is open to new trails at Sorhaug Woods as noted in the forestry plan. The property has room for an additional loop that would encompass the property more. It will be discussed by Land Management.

**Awarding of Contract for Shed Removal from Sorhaug Woods**

Robert Black submitted a quote of \$1200 for the demolition and removal of the shed from the Sorhaug Woods Conservation Land.

Brian Lagasse and Bruce Dubey never submitted bids as requested.

Member Morrison moved to accept the Bid from Robert Black of \$1200 for the demolition and removal of the horse shed at Sorhaug Woods.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

**COC – Colonial Gas – Hayden Road – 169-676**

Member Morrison moved to issue a Certificate of Compliance to Colonial Gas for the installation of a gas line on Hayden Road to service Autumn Leaf Drive. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

### **COC – Candlelight Realty Trust – Hayden Road 169-667**

Member Morrison moved to issue a Certificate of Compliance to Candlelight Realty Trust for the installation of a water line on Hayden Road to service Autumn Leaf Drive. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

### **Lavalley –740 Townsend Road**

Ms. Montgomery reported that the Lavalleys still have not filed with the Board of Health for a permit to deal with the beaver problem on their property.

It was decided that Ms. Montgomery would contact them again to remind them that they must go to the Board of Health for a permit. If they do not do that within the next week, they will be asked to attend the Conservation Commission meeting to explain the dredging activity.

### **Redskin Trail – Construction Activity**

Chairman Owen reported that when he went to 16 Redskin Trail, he observed activity at the house next door. The owner of that property happened to be in the audience and he explained that he was working on the interior of the building now and he would file with the Commission for any additional work under the Commission's jurisdiction. He has hired Ross Associates for the future work.

### **7:30 PM - Discussion – Still Meadow Conservation Restriction**

June Johnson, attorney from the Groton Land Foundation was present to speak to the members about the Conservation Restriction for Still Meadow on the MacDonald property on Nashua Road.

There are going to be some changes per the request of Joel Lerner, Director EOEI concerning pasturing animals and the community well.

The members signed the application, which did not change.

Vice chairman Corwin moved to empower Member Morrison to review and sign the amended CR for Still Meadow when Attorney Johnson gets it back from Mr. Lerner. The motion was seconded and passed 5-1. Member Morrison abstained.

### **7:45 PM Request for Determination – The Lakefront Trust – 16 Redskin Trail**

Clerk Clements read the public notice to consider the Request for Determination submitted by the The Lakefront Trust for the removal of an existing house to be replaced with a new house in a different location at 16 Redskin Trail on Assessors' Lot 129/149.

Robert Frye, owner of the property was present.

Chairman Owen said it is exempt from the bylaw because it is an existing structure Since the area was previously disturbed it is exempt from the new bylaw but not the WPA..

Member Morrison moved to issue a positive determination #4. The owner must file a Notice of Intent for the proposed construction at 16 Redskin Trail. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

### **8:00 PM Appointment to Growth Management Advisory Committee**

Member Auman nominated Scott Wilson to replace him on the Growth Management Advisory Committee. Member Auman's term expires in December and he does not wish to be reappointed. The nomination was seconded and passed unanimously.

Mr. Wilson was present and accepted the nomination.

### **Appraisals – Wiewel/Hurd Property – Skyfields Drive**

Ms. Montgomery reported that she has received only one bid so far for the appraising of the Wiewel/Hurd property on Skyfields Drive. Foster Co. price is \$3400. She is waiting to hear from three other appraisers.

Member Morrison moved to authorize Ms. Montgomery to expend \$3400 for the first bid and up to \$5000 for the second bid.

### **Budget FY 2003**

The budgets are due December 31, 2001. If the members want to add anything or change anything it must be done at the next meeting since there will not be another meeting in the month of December.

Vice chairman Corwin moved to increase line item # for Land Management and Signs from \$1500 to \$5000. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

### **Minutes**

Vice chairman Corwin moved to accept the minutes of November 13, 2001. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

### **McElroy – Mayfield Drive**

Chairman Owen reported that he told Dan McElroy that he would be fine with the plan if the person at NRCS said what was submitted was a Farm Plan. NRCS said it really isn't a farm plan and that Mr. McElroy is getting way ahead of them and they can't keep up. They will be getting the farm plan into the Commission and he had no problem with that.

### **Comments to Planning Board**

#### **Rocky Hill Preliminary Subdivision Plan.**

Vice chairman Corwin expressed concern for the impact to the potential vernal pools and the roadway in the buffer zone would not be allowed under the new bylaw.

#### **Reedy Meadow Estates Preliminary Plan**

Lots G-5, 19 and 20 are within 200 ft riverfront.

#### **Still Meadow Cluster Development Site Plan**

The Commission supports the plan and is working with the Groton Land Foundation on a Conservation Restriction.

#### **Sprint Tower Concept Plan**

The Commission has no comments concerning this plan.

#### **Union Congregational Church**

The Commission has no comments concerning this plan.

#### **Tidan Corporation/Richard Baker Plan**

The applicant must file for any work within 100ft of Island Pond.

**8:35 PM** With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth A. Montgomery  
Conservation Assistant