

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION
FEBRUARY 26, 2002
MINUTES**

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

Discussion – Change in Plan – Lot 2 Northwoods Road – 169-792

Michael Bushnell was present. He purchased Lot 2 Northwoods Road from the Groton Land Foundation. He would like to include grading for the house 20 feet (at the greatest point) inside the buffer zone.
Vice Chairman moved to accept the change in plan submitted at the meeting with the addition that there shall be a permanent marker along the edge of disturbance to prevent encroachment into the buffer.
The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

7:10 Public Hearing – Murray – 306 Boston Road

Clerk Clements read the public hearing notice to consider the Notice of Intent submitted by Sherry Murray for an addition to an existing structure at 306 Boston Road on Assessors' Lot 225/17.
Mr. Murray was present. The Commission had walked the site when the Request for Determination for this project was filed.
Member O'Connor moved to close the hearing. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

7:17 PM Discussion – Lathrop/Heveran – 122 Old Ayer Road

Ms. Beatrice Heveran, owner of 122 Old Ayer Road, was present to speak to the Commission about the manure piles on her property near James Brook.
The Commission observed the site from the roadway on Saturday, February 23, in response to complaints from passers-by. At that time the members observed discolored water in the trenches at the base of the slope along the edge of the road and smelled the strong odor of manure.
Chairman Owen said that this area is hydrologically connected to the culvert to the Bates parcel.
Ms. Heveran said that the piles are 95% shavings, manure contains hardly any nitrates and mud could be causing the discoloration of the water.
Chairman Owen said that it could be that the driveway is not stable and asked if there were any plans for stabilizing it.
Ms. Heveran said she is having difficulty getting a contractor to put in a gravel bed.
Vice chairman Corwin asked if there was a place to put the manure away from James Brook. And that the Commission usually asks for a manure management plan and didn't want to wait too long to solve the problem. The trenches were full of water today and rain is expected tonight.
Ms. Heveran said she has been speaking to Rick Chandler, Food and Agriculture, for a grant for manure management and one for an enviro-technical program.
The members asked for more information about these programs, but Ms. Heveran did not have that information available at the meeting.
Member Morrison asked for permission to enter the property and inspect the situation.
Ms. Heveran would have to check her schedule and then coordinate a time. She was told to cover the manure with a tarp and put in hay bales in the meantime.

7:35 PM Discussion – William Blood – 42 Fitch's Bridge Road

Mr. Blood was present to speak to the Commission about the corral on his property on the Nashua River.
The members measured the distance during the site walk on Saturday and determined that the corral was 75 ft from the riverbank edge.
Mr. Blood submitted letters from neighbors supporting him and praising him for his concern for the horses and their care.
He submitted a letter from Glen Shaw, New Ipswich, NH explaining that the manure is moved in covered containers to the Wilkins Farm.
Mr. Blood was given a Request for Determination Application form to be filled out by him and submitted to the

Commission for a legal record of the work at the site.

7:50 PM Public Hearing – Richardson – 23 West Main Street

Clerk Clements read the public hearing notice to consider the Notice of Intent submitted by Doug Richardson for the replacement of a septic system at 23 West Main Street on Assessors' Lot 101/19.

Steve Marsden, engineer, was present to describe the project. The Commission had walked the site with him on Saturday.

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

7:55 PM Request for Determination – Bouvier – 206 Mill St

Clerk Clements read the public notice to consider the Request for Determination submitted by Jane Bouvier for a replacement septic system at 206 Mill Street on Assessors' Lot 110/12.

Gary Shepherd from Ross Associates made the presentation. The members had walked the site on Saturday.

Member Morrison moved to issue a negative determination referencing Plan No. L-7403 dated January 2002, showing the hay bale line.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Request for Extension of OOC – Karen Coste – 68 Hayden Road – 169-547

The Commission received a letter from Mrs. Coste requesting an extension to the OOC 169-547 for a septic system at 68 Hayden Road.

Member Morrison moved to issue an extension to expire February 22, 2005. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

8:00 PM Public Hearing – Mavilia – 10 Redskin Trail

Clerk Clements read the public hearing notice to consider the Notice of Intent submitted by Michael Mavilia to install a tight tank septic system at 10 Redskin Trail, Assessors' Lot # 129/150.

Gary Shepherd made the presentation for this application for a tight tank, a new well, improving the abutment along the water and by adding a deck. Silt fence has already been installed. Mr. Mavilia was also present.

Member O'Connor said that the silt fence was not secured properly

Mr. Shepherd said it would be repaired.

Member Morrison moved to close the hearing. The motion was seconded and Member Chace abstained since she was not on the site walk.

Groton Lakes Association – Risk Assessment

Vice Chairman Corwin suggested that the Commission require a Risk Assessment for the proposed chemical application for weed control at Lost Lake and Knops Pond. Sue Sonstrom had done one for Brooks Orchard.

Chairman Owen said she also did one for Conductorlab.

Requests for Certificates of Compliance

Lyons/Ferrari – 49 Island Road – 169-612

A COC can not be issued at this time. The area is not stable.

Howard – 90 Hemlock Park Drive – 169-532

Member Morrison moved to issue a Certificate to Priscilla Howard, 90 Hemlock Park Drive DEP # 169-532. The motion was seconded and passed. 6-1 Chace abstained.

Anderson/Forbes – 140 Baddacook Pond Road – 169-651

Vice chairman Corwin moved to issue a Certificate of Compliance to Anderson/Forbes, 140 Baddacook Pond Road, DEP # 169-651. The motion was seconded and passed 6-1. Chace abstained.

Hollingsworth and Vose

Member O'Connor moved to issue Certificates of Compliance to Hollingsworth and Vose for he following:

Boiler House – 169-273

Tank Removal – 169-675

House Razing at 249 Townsend Road – 169-669

Pipeline – 169-586

Dam Repair – 169-531

The motion was seconded and passed 6-1. Chace abstained

Open Space Plan – Update

The office has received two quotes to update the Open Space Plan.

Beals and Thomas submitted a quote of \$9,750

McGregor & Associates submitted a quote of \$19,250.

We are still waiting to hear from BSC Group.

8:15 PM Public Hearing (con't) – Landfill Capping

The applicant requested a continuance to March 12, 2002. NHESP has not submitted a report on habitat at the site.

Member Morrison moved to continue the hearing to March 12, 2002. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Discussion – Veduccio – 6 Redskin Trail

The members visited the site on Saturday in response to a complaint that work was being done at 6 Redskin Trail without a permit. They observed heavy equipment digging at the site. Mr. Veduccio was not present at the meeting but spoke to the members on site and explained that a tree had fallen and damaged the house foundation.

He was told to put in hay bales and file a RDA for the work.

The application was mailed to him.

Hurd – Purchase and Sales Revision

The Purchase and Sales Agreement had been sent to Town Counsel for review. They had some revisions and that information was passed on to June Johnson, Attorney for the Hurds. The revised P & S has not been resubmitted to the Commission as of this date.

Discussion – Blouin – 35 Whitewood Road

The members visited the site in response to a request from Mr. Blouin on how to proceed with work on his property to build a foundation under the existing structure.

He was told on site to file when he wanted to start the work.

8:22 PM – Discussion – Flavell Crossing – Trails Committee

Bruce Easom and Paul Funch from the Trails Committee were present to speak to the Commission about marking trails in Flavell Crossing. Flavell Crossing connects to Duck Pond Cons. Land.

Member O'Connor moved to approve the plan to locate and install two trailhead markers (4" x 4" x 6' white cedar posts) provided that the bounds are in agreement and ascertained as accurate. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Eventually they will be clearing trails.

They will hand deliver information to the abutters to explain who they are and what they are doing and a contact phone number, perhaps the Commission office number.

This parcel was also suggested as an Eagle Scout project.

Wetland and Stream Crossings

Mr. Easom also wanted feedback from the members about what they would like to see for bridges over streams and wetlands. On Gratuity Road there is a parcel that is being developed by Richard Marsh. They are considering utility poles but you have to sign off that you know that the poles have been treated and receive a MSDS form.

Member Morrison said that the chemicals may have already leached out since they are short sections of used poles. Since it may be difficult to get a waiver from GELD, they may go with rough cut lumber from a sawmill to build the bridge before the development goes in. The bridge would have a 25 ft maximum span.

Member Morrison said that GELD has 24 ft sections that have been exposed to air and rain, etc.

Vice chairman Corwin said that the Commission allowed this for the Boy Scouts before. The landowner will have to file a RFD before the bridge can be built.

8:45 PM Discussion – Karen Riggert – GDRSD – Conservation Restriction

Mrs. Riggert was present and submitted the corrected and revised CR for the new high school site, for the chairman's signature

Member Morrison moved to accept the document as revised and have Chairman Owen sign it. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Reynolds – 27 Cypress Road

During the site walk on Whitewood Road, the members observed what appears to be a landfill at 27 Cypress Road. They saw pvc pipe, concrete and an old car body. The members need to determine how far the filling is from Martins Pond Brook.

Vice chairman Corwin moved to send a letter to Mr. Reynolds, asking him to file for his activity to determine if the activity is under the Commission's jurisdiction.

Letters will be sent to the Board of Health, Board of Selectmen, Building Inspector, Zoning Board of Appeals and a copy to Mr. Reynolds of what was observed. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Blouin – 35 Whitewood Road

Member Morrison moved to send letters to the Board of Health, Police Department, Building Inspector and Groton Conservation Trust about oil and gasoline leaking from the vehicles and contaminating the soils on the roadway owned by the GCT. This is a possible contamination to the waters of Lost Lake. The motion was seconded and passed 6-1 Chace abstained.

Discussion – Defreitas – 47 Boathouse Road

Some of the members went to 47 Boathouse Road in response to a call that the road had collapsed during the construction. The Commission has an OOC for this project.

Vice chairman Corwin reported it is an incredibly steep slope with the road about 10ft about where the footings are going. Where it has collapsed is practically straight down and there is danger of more collapse if it rains. There are hay bales and silt fence along the bottom along the lake. They are already bulging from the stuff that has been pushed against them. He was putting in silt fence when she was there today, the footings have been poured and the foundation forms are there but they have not been put up yet. Across the road he was doing the silt fencing. The filing was for house renovations and a tight tank. They had piled stuff across the road and you could see where the rain had already gone through it toward the wetland. It was very close to the wetland already. She suspects there may be tree stumps dumped up the road a little across from the trailer that the backhoe would have been on across from 14 Boathouse Rd. Where did those stumps come from, on the same side as the house? It is the location of a kettle hole.

Member Morrison moved to ask the engineer back to be asked to submit a report explaining why this happened and how to prevent future problems on this project.

Also are the stumps in the kettle hole down the road any relation to this project?

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Vice chairman Corwin asked if there is any immediate action to be taken.

Clerk Clements reported that the concrete was being done quickly.

Vice chairman Corwin would like the engineer to take a look at it and take whatever measures are necessary to make sure we don't have any siltation.

9:15 PM ACEC Letter

Clerk Clements had drafted a letter in support of the nominations for the Squannassit and Petapawag Areas of Critical Environmental Concern.

Vice chairman Corwin moved to accept the letters and authorize Chairman Owen to sign them.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Minutes – February 12, 2002

Vice chairman Corwin corrected the minutes on page 4, paragraph about Coalition Bond where it says Member

O'Connor should read Vice chairman Corwin and where it says Vice chairman Corwin it should say Member O'Connor.

Vice chairman Corwin moved to accept the minutes of February 12, 2002 as amended.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Clean up of fallen trees at Groton Woods CC land

Dennis Lacombe had inquired if he could remove some trees that had fallen on Conservation land near Duck Pond. He thought they were dangerous.

Chairman Owen said he was familiar with the situation and thought it would be a good idea to clean up the area.

Signs

Clerk Clements reported that he met a sign maker during the ACEC process. He submitted a letter with prices. It will be copied and distributed to the members for consideration when contracting for signs to identify CC land.

Gibbet Hill Agricultural Preservation Restriction

Member Morrison reported that the Webbers have been working with the Department of Food and Agriculture on an APR for Gibbet Hill. When the price has been established, the Commission will be asked to contribute 10%. More information will be submitted as the process progresses.

9:40 PM With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth A. Montgomery
Conservation Assistant