

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MAY 28, 2002  
MINUTES**

**7:00 PM Lawrence Academy Students Envirothon Presentation**

Three students from the five-student team from Lawrence Academy made a presentation of their project for the Envirothon 2002.

Maria Firstenberg, Jason Harris and John Holbrook described their project entitled "Biodiversity and Introduced Species: The Pirates of Petapawag".

Also present was their coach and science teacher, Jim Serach.

John reported that there are 388 vernal pools in Groton in addition to those already certified.

Maria reported that 25% of the Town has protected open space. Throne Hill, Snake Hill are not completely developed and ACEC will provide linkage for protected land.

Jason reported how the invasive species "Purple Loosestrife" replaces cattails which is a "Keystone Species" and how it affects wildlife.

There is a beetle that USDA provides that does not eat native species that is being considered to be introduced to eat the loosestrife.

Mr. Serach said they will try to set up a program for work in a detention basin but not in a large area.

The members of the Commission commended the students on their project. Their report is on file in the Commission office.

**7:30 PM Discussion – Bylaw Regulations – Attorney Lane**

Elizabeth Lane, from Kopelman and Paige, was present to discuss the proposed regulations.

Also present was Scott Wilson who had drafted the proposed regulations.

She reported that what is stated in the bylaw should not be repeated in the regulations and to avoid repeating what is in the state law.

She went over the bylaw and made some changes and suggestions.

Mr. Wilson will make the changes and submit the revisions to the commission.

**8:28 PM Public Hearing – Town of Groton Highway Dept – Squannacook Sportsmen's Club Beaver Dam**

Clerk Clements read the public hearing notice to consider the Notice of Intent submitted by the Town of Groton Highway Department to install a beaver dam flow device at the dam on the Squannacook Sportsmen's Club property on West Main Street on Assessors' Lot 106/34 and 37.

Highway Surveyor Thomas Delaney was not present. The Commission had walked the site and the NOI had been submitted to NHESP because it is in area of estimated habitat.

Julie Lisk, 63 Spencer Circle, asked if the pipe was permanent.

It is a permanent installation. The water will be maintained at the level it was before the beavers blocked the flow. The pond will not be drained.

Vice chairman Corwin moved to continue the hearing to June 11, 2002 to wait to hear from NHESP.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

**8:30 PM Request for Determination – Rabidoux – 49 Off Prescott St**

Clerk Clements read the public hearing notice to consider the Request for Determination submitted by Nancy Rabidoux to add sand to an existing beach at 49 off Prescott St on Assessors' Lot 123/5.

Mrs. Rabidoux was present and explained that the sand will be placed in a 10' by 20' area about three feet from the water and will be about 6" deep.

The members walked the site on Saturday.

Vice chairman Corwin moved to issue a negative determination. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

**8:36 PM Public Hearing – Fox Meadow Realty Corp and Long Pond Realty – ANRAD**

Clerk Clements read the public hearing notice to consider the Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation submitted by Fox Meadow Realty Corp and Long Pond Realty LLC to verify wetland flagging on Sandy Pond Road on

Assessors' Lot 120/2.

The Commission walked part of the site on Saturday but has more to do.

Member Morrison moved to continue the hearing to June 11 and have another site walk on June 8, 2002. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

### **Request for Certificate of Compliance – Rose –16 Autumn Leaf Drive**

The Commission walked the site on Saturday.

Chairman Owen read #40 of the OOC that “the applicant shall permanently mark the limit of work from the proposed driveway and the north corner of the house to ensure no further inadvertent encroachment into the wetland”

The driveway was not where originally proposed and the limit of work was not permanently marked.

Chairman Owen said they did not comply.

Vice chairman Corwin said she is afraid of lawn creep in the future.

Clerk Clements moved to issue a COC for DEP #169-682. The motion was seconded and failed by a vote of 3-4.

Morrison, O'Connor and Chace voted yea. Owen, Clements, Auman and Corwin voted nay.

Mr. and Mrs. Rose will be sent a letter instructing them to comply with # 40 of the OOC.

Boulders or a fence or something that can't be moved should be put in place.

### **8:45 PM Public Hearing (con't) – Landwest, Inc. – Academy Hill**

Don Yonika was present and submitted a new revised Definitive Subdivision Plan for Academy Hill.

The EIR has not been done. They have hired an archeological firm. Phase I analysis will require a few more months.

Brian Butler finished his report on species. They are waiting to hear from NHESP, then MESA kicks in with the EIR and a Conservation Permit.

The Commission will review the revised plan.

Vice chairman Corwin moved to continue the hearing to June 11, 2002. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

### **Discussion – Land Donation – from Joseph Falzone – Broadmeadow Road**

Mr. Falzone had called the office to inquire if the Commission would be interested in accepting a donation of 14.5 acres on Broadmeadow at the RailTrail.

Marion Stoddart (NRWA) and Roland Willis, 26 Broadmeadow Rd, were present.

Mrs. Stoddart asked the Commission to accept the gift of land since it would be a better steward of the land than a private owner. James Brook flows through this swamp. She checked with the Assessors' and it is assessed at \$24,000, the yearly taxes are \$338.

The Commission was warm to the idea but would like more information from Mr. Falzone.

### **OOC Written for B. Black – 169-828 – Lot 7A Burnt Meadow Road**

Member Morrison left the room. He is an abutter.

Chairman Owen moved significance, regular and special conditions for the driveway for Lot 7A Burnt Meadow Road.

The motions were seconded and passed unanimously.

The OOC is on file in the Commission office.

### **Request for COC – Dietl – 291 Townsend Road –DEP # 169-776**

The Commission inspected the site of the oil tank and garage removal on Saturday. The area is not stable and there was sand near the stream.

Vice chairman Corwin moved to issue a COC for 169-776. The motion failed unanimously.

### **COC – Dietl/Legacy – 291 Townsend Road – DEP # 169-778**

The members inspected the septic system installation on Saturday and found all to be in order.

Vice chairman Corwin moved to issue a Certificate of Compliance for 169-778. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

### **Deerhaven – Letter from Marshall Giguere**

The Commission had received a letter from Mr. Giguere asking about 30 acres that may be donated to the Commission and the condition of the land.

Ms. Montgomery spoke to Mrs. Collette, Planning Assistant, who said all the concerns in the letter (on file) will be addressed by the Planning Board. There are no plans at this time to donate the land to the Commission. It is to be owned and managed by a Homeowners Association.

### **Reorganization**

Member O'Connor nominated Kris Corwin for chairman. Clerk Clements seconded the nomination and made a "general comment" to consider rotation by seniority like the Board of Selectmen.

Member Morrison said he was uncomfortable with a hard rule.

Chairman Owen said the MACC Handbook said the chairman's duty is just to run the meeting.

Member Auman said we should take all nominations before a vote. We need a process.

Member O'Connor withdrew her nomination.

Chairman Owen called for nominations.

Member O'Connor nominated Kris Corwin as chairman. The nomination was seconded and passed 6-1 (Corwin abstained).

Chairman Owen called for nominations for Vice chairman.

Member O'Connor nominated Peter Morrison for Vice chairman. The nomination was seconded. The nomination failed 2 yea (Chace and O'Connor) 3 nay (Auman, Corwin, Owen) Clements and Morrison abstained.

Vice chairman Corwin nominated Bruce Clements for Vice chairman. The nomination was seconded and failed. 3 yea (Corwin, Owen and Auman) the other 4 abstained.

Member Morrison nominated Kathleen O'Connor as Vice chairman. The nomination was seconded and failed 3 yea (Morrison, Corwin and Chace) 3 nay (Auman, Owen and Clements) O'Connor abstained.

Vice chairman Corwin nominated Craig Auman as Vice chairman. The nomination was seconded and failed. 3 yea (Corwin, Owen and Clements) 3 nay (O'Connor, Morrison and Chace) Auman abstained.

Member O'Connor nominated Evan Owen as Vice chairman. The nomination was seconded and passed 4 yea (Chace, Corwin, Auman and Clements) 3 abstained (Morrison, Owen and O'Connor)

Chairman Owen accepted nominations for Clerk.

Vice chairman Corwin nominated Kathleen O'Connor as Clerk. The nomination was seconded and passed 6-1 (O'Connor abstained).

Evan Owen agreed to stay on as Earth Removal Representative after asking other members.

### **Reynolds – 27 Cypress Road**

The Board of Health will be asked for an update on the cleanup of the property at 27 Cypress Road. James Reynolds lives there, but his mother, Barbara Woodard, owns the property.

### **Minutes – February 26, 2002.**

The minutes of February 26, 2002 were never officially accepted.

Member O'Connor moved to accept the minute of February 26, 2002 as written. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

### **Skyfields Drive CC Land – Land Management Plan**

Member O'Connor submitted the Land Management Plan that she wrote for the Skyfields Drive Conservation Land to be sent to EOEAs as a requirement of the Self-Help Grant.

The members will review it for approval.

### **FYI – Letter from Hollingsworth and Vose, Inc. – Board Installation in Dam**

H & V will be installing the boards across the dam during Memorial Day Weekend. The pond will be lowered slowly over 72 hours. The boards will then be installed and the pond level will increase again.

**9:50 PM** With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth A. Montgomery  
Conservation Assistant