

Minutes of the Meredith Conservation Commission Meeting...November 6, 2008

Meeting:

Meeting called to order by Chairman MacFarlane at 7:00 PM.

Members Attending:

Donald MacFarlane, Robert LeCount, Ralph Pisapia, Daniel Heyduk.

Alternate Members Attending:

Jacquie Colburn, John Sherman, Terry Lance, Paula Wanzer

Minutes:

By motion of Pisapia, seconded by Heyduk and voted affirmatively the minutes of the October 16 meeting were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report:

The following invoice were presented for payment:

Meredith DPW	\$ 44.22	Gates for Feltham
Ralph Pisapia	101.00	Books for library
John Sherman	17.45	Paint and tape for boundary marking
Daniel Heyduk	17.66	Feltham Trails
“ ”	27.57	“ ”
“ ”	46.74	“ ”

Dredge and Fill Committee

One application to the Department of Environmental Services has been reviewed since the Last report.

Bradco Supply Corp.
44 Railroad Avenue
Tax Map U-05, Lot# 1

Recommended Approval
Install erosion controls

At this point Chairman MacFarlane requested that James Freeman further explain and solicit Commission support for the concept of Forest Farms within the Meredith Forest and Conservation District as outlined in his letter to Chairman MacFarlane. This letter had been given to all Commission members prior to this meeting. Several guests also spoke in support of this concept. The discussion was wide ranging covering start up, relationship to present zoning, legal status of any organization, the distribution of funds derived from forest management activities and the advantages to the participants and to the town. It was acknowledged that many more meeting would be required before this concept could be brought to fruition. While at this time no commitment to actively support this concept has been made the Commission does support Chairman MacFarlane's attendance at any such future meetings in order to keep the Commission informed.

Chairman MacFarlane distributed a letter from New England Forestry Consultants, Inc. Outlining costs to prepare management plans for eight properties. As these costs are estimates they will be used only to allow the Treasurer to prepare our 2009 budget.

Chairman MacFarlane reported that verbal approval from the court modifying terms of the Leavitt will has been received allowing the costs of any logging operation to be deducted from the total funds received before turning the net proceeds to the town. As soon as written approval has been received logging operations may be scheduled.

Sherman reported that the selectmen will approve expansion of the snow dump (removal of the

final snow dump acreage from the town forest) and a public hearing will be held Nov. 19. By motion of Sherman, seconded by Pisapia and voted affirmatively the acreage of the snow dump will be shown as 4.9129 acres on all Commission documents.

Page Pond Campaign

The cost to purchase the Page Pond Property has been reduced to \$ 2,250,000. \$ 1,840.00 has been raised to date. The fund raising committee believes that this amount will be achieved. Closing is now scheduled for January 9, 2009

Feltham Property

Heyduk reported that all trails have now been blazed. Will now need new map. Copies of the Proposed verbiage to be placed on the back of the Feltham map was distributed by Wanzer. While no vote was taken it appeared that Commission members approved the text which has been enhanced by the use of colors and pictures. Mike Dickinson has produced 36 trail junction and 4 trail signs. These will be installed as soon as possible. A thank you letter will go out to Mike for this generous contribution. All the installed gates will be open during the winter months. The fire department has keys to all locks

NRI Phase11

Rick Van de Pool indicated that a final draft of the Natural Resource Inventory will be delivered the first week in December. A public hearing will be scheduled January 15.

Invasive Species

Pisapia reported that the inventory of invasive species of Japanese Knotwood will be completed the week of November 9. A map will be produced. A program to control this species will be included in the to do list for 2009

Open Space Committee

Most of the monitoring activities for 2008 are complete.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Next meeting scheduled November 20 at 7:00 PM at the Community Center.

Respectfully submitted,


Robert A. LeCount, Secretary.

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