

Minutes of the Meredith Conservation Commission Meeting March 4th, 2010

Members present: Don MacFarlane, John Sherman, Peter Miller, Robert LeCount, Paula Wanzer, Mark Billings

Alternate members present: Robert Davis, Dan Heyduk

Heyduk was appointed a voting member for this meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman MacFarlane at 5:00 PM

Minutes of February 18th, 2010

On motion of Billings, seconded by Sherman, the minutes of February 18th, 2010 were approved by unanimous vote.

Dredge and Fill Report

Francis and Tina Beaupre
10 Observatory Road
Tax Map U-23, Lot #27

Recommend approval.
Proposed seasonal dock to replace and relocate a non-conforming existing dock. Also proposed a seasonal boat lift and canopy.

Parallax Trust, Tom Morin
6 Black Brook Road
Tax Map W-4, Lot #3

Recommend approval.
Proposed new seasonal dock and repair of concrete steps leading to dock.

On motion of Sherman, seconded by Billings, the Dredge and Fill Report was approved by unanimous vote.

Town Forest Gift Acceptance Policy and Memorial Bench

Heyduk recommended that the Commission adopt RSA 36 – A:4 as its gift acceptance policy. On motion of Sherman, seconded by Miller, the Commission voted unanimously to adopt this RSA as policy.

Regarding the outstanding request for a memorial bench in Meredith Community Town Forest, Heyduk recommends a curved, polished granite bench, whose all-inclusive cost will include inscription and installation. Cost to be paid by donation.

Volunteer Recognition

Wanzer circulated a list of events that could be held. The Commission's inclination is to have an outdoor cookout at one of the town forests during a warm, low insect time of year. Wanzer will compile a list of volunteers to be honored.

Spear/Snake River Easement

Billings informed the Commission there will be a bit of a delay in the drafting of this easement. The Commission's intent, per discussion on 2/18, is to use the Forest Society (SPNHF) template. That template is being revised and will not be available until mid-April or thereabouts, hence the delay.

On a related subject, the need to have a Level I Environmental Assessment done on the property prior to purchase was acknowledged.

Timber Harvests

The Town has received two more checks from Shaun Lagueux for the Dockham timber cut in the amounts of \$1920.51 (02/19/2010) and \$1988.50 (02/26/2010).

Ecological Assessment

MacFarlane urged the Commission to consider whether it wished to include the Barbara Smyth Easement in the Eames/Hamlin assessment Peter Ellis will conduct. The easement, which abuts both town forests, calls for an assessment to be done. This led to a discussion of the definition of "assessment". MacFarlane stated that his concept of assessment is what Peter Ellis has proposed to do for Hamlin/Eames.

Winnepesaukee River Watershed Wetlands Restoration and Preservation Plan – Aquatic Resource Mitigation Fund

MacFarlane informed the Commission of the sites in Meredith that are available for restoration funding. It is not known what criteria were used to select these sites. One of the high ranking sites is located on the Page Pond property. NHDES is making \$153,000 available for restorations within the Winnepesaukee River watershed. The funds can be used for wetland creation/restoration and preservation of land abutting wetlands. MacFarlane to ask Colburn if she is interested in helping the Commission pursue grants for sites that have been identified.

Purchase LCD Projector?

MacFarlane tossed this question out for the Commission to consider. The cost of LCD projectors has come down significantly. Owning a projector would facilitate power point presentations. Use of the town's projector is iffy and cumbersome.

Upcoming Trail Work Days

Late April – Smyth Easement

July 24th (tentative) – Meredith Community Forest

Chairman Comment

The annual “Saving Special Places” workshop will be held on April 10th.

Many members’ terms are due for renewal soon. To create more staggered terms, MacFarlane and Sherman will opt for two year terms at renewal.

Meeting adjourned at 6:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Miller
Secretary