

**Town of Northwood
Conservation Commission Minutes
November 4, 2014**

Chairman Steve Roy calls the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

Present: Chairman Stephen Roy, Vice Chairman Steven Hampl, James Ryan, Wini Young, Board Administrator Linda Smith, and Board Secretary Lisa Fellows-Weaver. *Thomas Chase arrives at 7:20 p.m.*

Absent: Paul Lussier, Alternates Loren O'Neil, and Michael Matson.

MINUTES

Mr. Roy makes a motion, second by Mr. Hampl, to postpone the minutes to later in the meeting. Motion passes unanimously; 4/0.

PUBLIC INPUT

Andrew Pinard, Blakes Hill Rd. Map 224; Lot 9.

Andrew Pinard explains that he is a former volunteer for the Yankee Clipper Boy Scout of America, specifically a volunteer on the camp committee for Camp Wah-Tuk-Ca on Blakes Hill Rd. He states that he is present as a concerned advocate for the camp, being good stewards of the property, and good neighbors to the town.

Mr. Pinard states that he has reviewed the last few sets of meeting minutes. He states that the minutes led him to believe that the camp was requesting permission to do future work. Mr. Roy states that as chair of the conservation commission, the Boy Scout camp was struggling with their preparation of a state application for a sand replenishment and fill project at the camp. He states that there were a few problems encountered with technology as well as conceptually; trying to understand the forms and specifically what was needed to be submitted. Mr. Roy states that Frank Barre was the representative that met with the commission and he was guided by the commission at one meeting and attended the following meeting where there was some productivity with the application.

Mr. Roy states that his understanding of the meetings with Mr. Barre was that the camp was looking into doing a project where sand was needed to be brought in at the canoe slips. The work had not been done yet and the application was being prepared to be submitted to the state for approval for the project. Mr. Roy states that the commission was assisting Mr. Barre with completing the forms. He adds that draw down of the pond was also mentioned as these types of projects are typically completed during the draw-down, per the state requirements.

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Mr. Hampl states that he agrees with the perception of Mr. Roy. Mr. Ryan states that he was not present for one of the meetings and Ms. Young states that she was not present at the August meeting.

Mr. Roy reads aloud a portion of the commission's September 2, 2014 meeting minutes and states that he feels that the tone of the minutes implies that the project was a proposed action.

Mr. Pinard explains that he is here in an unofficial capacity. He explains that he was a volunteer for the camp last summer. He states that July 4 he was standing along the water front and a truck of sand was dumped on the beach. He states that on July 10 he went for the national inspection and this project had been completed. He states that the other committee that he had mentioned has not been trustworthy. He states that he is no longer a volunteer from the committee and has come up from Haverhill, MA, to notify the commission of the activities on the site. He states that he has also provided a summary of the project and the fill.

Mr. Roy explains that NHDES has a process where an allegation or a complaint can be issued regarding unlawful impacts to wetlands. He adds that there is an opportunity to request that the commission also follow a similar action; however, the commission was not an eyewitness to the fill. Mr. Roy asks if Mr. Pinard is willing to complete the complaint process. Mr. Pinard states that he is willing to submit a complaint.

Mr. Hampl states that Mr. Roy is correct in that the commission followed the processes accordingly. He states that this is a matter for NHDES to address. Mr. Ryan agrees. Ms. Young comments that the complaint process is the proper procedure at this point.

Tom Chase arrives at 7:20 p.m.

Mr. Roy states that the commission's minutes are available for submittal to NHDES. He adds that should NHDES visit the alleged site and impacted area, sometimes commission members can attend too. Mr. Roy states that he will try to attend. Mr. Hampl also offers to attend. Mr. Ryan suggests that pictures be provided, if available. Mr. Roy states that he appreciates Mr. Pinard coming in and bringing this to attention of the commission.

MINUTES

October 7, 2014

Mr. Roy makes a motion, second by Mr. Ryan, to approve the October 7, 2014, minutes, as written. Motion passes unanimously; 4/0.

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NEW BUSINESS

Boundary Survey, Map 215; Lot 48.

Ms. Smith states that she and Mr. Roy met with the selectmen and presented the board with a donation of land from Peter Johnson. She states that the selectmen voted in favor of accepting the Johnson land once the conservation commission's process is completed with the deed conveyance.

Ms. Smith states that she sent a letter to town counsel providing the necessary information and back up. Ms. Smith states that counsel recommended that the commission conduct a survey since the property has been through a will, has had several owners (in recent years), and that the language in the deed is vague.

Mr. Roy explains the scope of work provided from William Wormell. He states that the estimate is \$1,850. Ms. Smith states that the quote obtained will include an electronic file and legal description.

Mr. Roy states that he believes that last month the commission granted the authority for Ms. Smith to begin the process. He states that he does not feel that the quote is an unreasonable amount. He states that Ms. Smith did contact him regarding obtaining other survey quotes and he states that he did not feel that it was necessary as the commission has had Mr. Wormell do work for them before. Mr. Hampl asks if there could be a survey done that did not involve as much as quoted and save some money. Ms. Smith replies that she believes that this quote is for the least amount that is needed to be done in order for a recordable plan to be provided as well as deed language, with the necessary field work. Mr. Roy states that he thought the quote would be higher. Mr. Roy adds that this cost would come from the land fund. Ms. Smith states that currently there is \$52,676 in the land fund.

Additional discussion is held regarding costs associated for the title search, and deed review. **Mr. Roy makes a motion, second by Mr. Chase, to appropriate up to \$4,000, from the conservation land fund, to cover the costs associated with a survey, title search, deed research, legal costs for review of the deed language and/or existing or development property description language, relative to the support of acquisition of Map 215; Lot 48. Motion passes unanimously; 5/0.**

Mr. Roy makes a motion, second by Mr. Hampl, to grant authority to staff to execute the process to proceed with the land acquisition of Map 215; Lot 48, as necessary. Motion passes unanimously; 5/0.

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Rapid Ecological Assessment - Yeaton Property

Mr. Roy explains that a scope of work had been received for the Yeaton property for the previously approved a natural resource project. He states that he and Ms. Smith met with the selectmen and they approved proceeding with the project. Mr. Roy states that a contract has been provided and Ms. Smith states that the contract was approved and signed by the selectmen today. Mr. Roy states that the funds to complete the project are in this year's budget. Mr. Roy adds that Mr. VandePol has contacted him and indicated that he has begun working on the project.

OTHER

NH Association of Conservation Commissions Annual Conference

Mr. Chase states that he attended the NH Association of Conservation Commissions Annual Meeting. He provides a very brief overview of sessions he attended. He states that he felt that it was a great opportunity and time well spent.

Emma Yates

Information from Emma Yates has been received and is provided to members.

Recognition of Services

The members and staff of the conservation commission recognize the many contributions that Mr. Arthur Slade gave to the Town of Northwood. It is with deep regret that the commission acknowledges the passing of former CC member Arthur Slade and requests a letter be sent to the family of Mr. Slade acknowledging his services.

ADJOURNMENT

**Mr. Ryan makes a motion, second by Mr. Hampl, to adjourn at 7:55 p.m.
Motion passes unanimously; 5/0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Fellows-Weaver
Board Secretary