

PEMBROKE CONSERVATION COMMISSION (CC) MEETING
Draft Minutes of October 13, 2008

Attendance

Present

Members: Lea Anne Atwell, Secretary; Carol Bertsimas, Vice-Chair; Kevin Gagne (arriving at 8:30 pm); Ammy Heiser, Chair; Stetson Heiser; and Ayn Whytemare

Alternate: David Baril

Not Present

Members: David Sheldon, Board of Selectmen (BOS) Representative; Kevin Krebs, Planning Board (PB) Representative

1. Call to Order – Ammy called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

2. Conservation Land

a. White Sands – No update regarding signs or boulders. **ACTION ITEM:** Ammy will contact Jimmy for suggestions about the best way to post the signs and to check on the boulders.

b. Ames Brook – The CC received a letter from Everett Hodges, the Code Enforcement Officer, regarding the clearing at the property that was discussed at our September meeting. Because of the clearing, which was done incorrectly, erosion is washing into the brook. To control the erosion, the Town is requesting that a silt fence be installed and that other erosion control measures be taken on the banks to replace the vegetation that should not have been removed. From the letter, it is unclear if this was also sent to the developer, Dennis Aubin. **ACTION ITEM:** Ayn will contact Everett to see if this correspondence was also sent to the developer, and she will possibly contact Dennis Aubin.

c. Monitor Schedule for 2008 – No new updates for monitoring. David offered to help with monitoring. Ayn gave him the monitoring materials for the Whittemore property. He has noticed ATV activity on that property. Also, he will put up the yellow conservation land signs at White Sands. Ammy received a letter regarding monitoring on LCIP properties. **ACTION ITEM:** Ammy will contact LCIP to see if the Town has any properties that were funded through that source and need to be monitored.

d. Belfry Court – This item was tabled until our next meeting, as there is no new business to report.

3. Review and Adopt Minutes – August 11, 2008 and September 8, 2008 –

August 11, 2008: Minor changes to the minutes were discussed during our September 8, 2008 meeting. Ayn made a motion to accept the minutes; Stetson seconded. David will vote on behalf of Carol, who was not at the meeting. Five in favor. Motion carries.

September 8, 2008: Carol made a motion to accept the minutes; Stetson seconded. Four in favor, one abstained. Motion carries.

4. Land Acquisition Update – The CC discussed the Hillman property and the fact that we can't move forward with the Farm and Ranch program without the support of the current landowner.

Discussion took place about the property near the Whittemore conservation property that is for sale.

Draft CC Minutes – October 13, 2008

Another property is between the property for sale and the Whittemore piece. Discussion took place about having sample easements to show interested property owners, particularly those that would allow logging under a management plan. **ACTION ITEM:** Ayn will contact Five Rivers for sample easements and invite them to our November 10th meeting.

The property on Borough Road is under contract and will likely be sold to someone who will preserve the open land, and as a result, it is probably not the best candidate for conservation land at this time. Kevin Krebs was going to talk to a property owner on North Pembroke Road about conservation options, but is not at the meeting. He indicated via email that he had not had a chance to contact the landowner.

5. GIS Maps and Overlays for Conservation - Lea Anne looked at the files the Town got from the Regional Planning Commission, which included parcel information, wetlands, aquifer protection district boundaries, future zoning based on the Master Plan, and numerous other layers. She contacted the Regional Planning Commission who provided the files, for additional information. We should contact someone at the Town for updated parcel information. **ACTION ITEM:** Lea Anne will contact Don Engles and continue to develop a GIS application for the CC using free GIS software.

6. 2009 Budget Proposal and Balance Sheet Review – The CC reviewed our budget from 2008 and decided to request additional money for meetings and conferences. Ammy will turn in the form. Lea Anne made a motion to accept the proposed budget. Carol seconded. Six in favor. Motion carries.

7. Easements and Applications to Review – The CC discussed how to streamline the process of reviewing these applications, which for the most part, do not fall under the purview of the CC.

a. #08-07 – Cushman / Curley Lot Line Adjustment – The CC returned the form indicating that we couldn't read the attached plan, but if the application was for a lot line adjustment only, we had no comment.

b. #08-108 Foy Insurance Minor Site Plan – The plan included a parking lot addition. Since the property is located in the Aquifer Conservation District, the CC recommended looking into a permeable surface rather than impermeable pavement.

c. Plausawa Discretionary Easement Review – The CC suggested using ecological lawn care, which is not any more expensive than traditional methods, and provided a couple of web addresses with good reference information on the topic.

Meeting with Planning Board, August 12th – The PB invited the CC to their meeting to discuss conservation easements and how the process is working and how to work with the PB on new easements. Ammy and Stetson attended the PB meeting. The main thing that came out of the meeting is that the CC and PB should communicate more closely when issues regarding potential conservation properties / easements arise. The PB is looking into hiring a consultant to update the Town's Open Space Ordinance and the Growth Management Ordinance. The CC would like to be involved in this process.

8. Workshops, Meetings and Conference Invitations –

a. CTAP Meeting with Pembroke Planning Board on October 14th – Because Pembroke is one of the communities that will be affected by the expansion of I-93, CTAP is paying for a consultant to help the PB with long range plans. The consultant will help re-designate land use areas and help with the open space subdivision requirements. This meeting is this first of several working meetings with the PB. Ammy, Stetson, Ayn, and Carol will try to attend.

b. NHACC Annual Conference on November 1st – Ammy, Stetson, Ayn, Lea Anne, and Kevin G would like to attend. Ammy will register us for the conference.

Draft CC Minutes – October 13, 2008

c. Watershed Conference on November 15th – Any will try to attend for her business and will report back to the CC.

9. Local Source Water Protection Grant Program – Kevin G. will look into this program to see if it would be applicable for our conservation projects.

10. Mail, Correspondences, and Misc. – Various newsletters and flyers were reviewed.

Discussion took place about streamlining our meetings and for goals for the CC. We will discuss further at our next meeting.

11. Adjournment – Stetson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Carol seconded. Five in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9 pm.