

**PEMBROKE CONSERVATION COMMISSION (CC)**  
**Approved Minutes of May 10, 2010 Meeting**

**Present:** Lea Anne Atwell; Carol Bertsimas, Vice-Chair; Ammy Heiser, Chair; Stetson Heiser; Kevin Krebs, Planning Board (PB) Representative; and Brian Mrazik, Secretary.

**Not Present:** David Baril, Alternate; Ayn Whytemare; and Board of Selectman (BOS) Representative.

**Others Present:** Harold Thompson, Chair, Sewer Commission; Mala Tyler; and Brad Gilpatrick.

1. **Call to Order** – Ammy called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm.
2. **Scripture Easement** – Mala Tyler requested permission from the CC to cut pine trees that pose a risk to structures and animals on the property. In a recent storm event, a large pine came down on the roof of her house causing considerable damage. The existing management plan for this parcel, which was approved by the CC, provides for the removal of such trees. Carol motioned to approve the Tyler’s request to remove trees meeting the management-plan criteria. Stetson seconded. Six voted in favor, none opposed. The motion carried. Ammy requested Mala to advise the CC when the tree removal operation was complete. **ACTION ITEM:** Carol agreed to conduct a monitoring visit to the parcel when the operation is completed.
3. **CTAP Open Space Planning (OSP) Program** – Ammy reported that the last meeting of the Open Space Committee (OSC) was held on April 22. Vanessa Bittermann is compiling the results of the effort into a draft Open Space Plan. The Plan will identify purchase, planning and other measures available to conserve the green-infrastructure zone established as part of the OSP effort. Vanessa will work with David Jodoin to set up a meeting with Town committees to present the plan. Later, public hearings will be held, including discussions of the legal and economic benefits to landowners of placing conservation easements on their properties. Ammy is hopeful that the plan will be adopted as part of the Town’s Master Plan. **ACTION ITEM:** Kevin agreed to provide an update on the effort to the PB at its next meeting. Ammy also reported that the meeting was attended by Ted Natti, a state forester and former Chairman of Pembroke’s first CC. Ted was supportive of the OSP and suggested presenting the plan to Gail Whittemore who owns a considerable amount of land in the identified green-infrastructure zone.
4. **Range Roads Discussion**
  - a. **Citizen comment** - Ammy recognized Brad Gilpatrick who wanted to speak to the CC on this topic. Brad was in favor of closing Class VI roads to motorized wheeled vehicles during the spring wet season but would prefer that ATVs be permitted to use the roads in May during turkey hunting season. Brad thought that any policy regarding restrictions on the use of these roads in the spring should distinguish between all-terrain vehicles (ATV’s) and the larger, more destructive 4x4 trucks. Weight restrictions could be used for this purpose. Brad mentioned that there are strict regulations and fines in place for operating off-road recreational vehicles (OHRVs) in identified wetlands, including a

\$5,000 fine for unknowingly operating in a wetland and a \$10,000 fine for knowingly operating in a wetland. This regulation is policed by the NH Department of Fish and Game. Brad also suggested that the CC try to place more signage on entrances to conservation lands from private property, which are often not marked.

- b. **BOS meeting presentation** - Ammy reminded the CC that the presentation to the BOS on Range Roads was scheduled for next Monday, May 17 at 6:30 PM and encouraged CC members to attend. Thirty minutes was being set aside for the presentation and any follow-up discussion. Ammy contacted Dave Jodoin regarding the availability of a computer projector for the presentation. Dave will obtain one from the Police Department. Dave Jodoin also requested that any information packets for the BOS be provided to him by Thursday morning. **ACTION ITEM:** Brian agreed to develop an information package and provide it to Dave. Ammy suggested that Jim Garvin's handout on Range Roads also be included in the package.

- 5. **Hillman Parcel Acquisition, 553 Buck St.** – Ammy reported that a meeting was being held with the Five Rivers Conservation Land Trust (FRCLT) on May 12 at 4:00 PM at the Nature Conservancy office (Pill Building in Concord) to discuss FRCLT's requested changes to the easement language. Ammy had sent a copy of the proposed changes to Jae Whitelaw who has reviewed them. The property-owner interview regarding hazardous materials is also being held by USDA-NRCS on May 12. The property owners have acquired a survey of the property which identified a total of 49 acres. Two acres will be subdivided out, leaving 47 acres for the easement. The property owners are planning to have their subdivision request before the PB at its meeting on June 22. The appraiser, Sherry Browning, will complete the final appraisal after the easement language and survey report have been finalized. The owners have agreed to an extension of the purchase and sales agreement through May 12, 2011.

- 6. **Review and Approve Minutes of April 12th Meeting** – Ammy noted two minor corrections in the draft minutes. Kevin motioned to approve the draft minutes with the corrections. Carol seconded. Six voted in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

## 7. Conservation Land Updates

- a. **White Sands** – Ammy and Stetson met with Jim Boisvert and Harold Thompson at the pumping station site on April 13 to discuss the vehicle and parking issues. It was agreed that the Department of Public Works (DPW) will place gravel in the area to minimize erosion caused by vehicles. DPW will also put up the new signs and place additional boulders on the conservation land boundary to deter vehicle entrance.
- b. **Schuett** – Jim Boisvert agreed to remove a portion of a tree that has fallen from this parcel onto private property.

- 8. **Election of Officers** – Lea Anne motioned that the CC elect a panel of officers that included Ammy Heiser as Chairman, Carol Bertsimas as Vice-Chair, and Brian Mrazik as Secretary. Stetson seconded. Six voted in favor, none opposed. The motion carried.

## 9. Planning Board Applications for Review

- a. **Kimball's Market** – This is a proposed change of use from a convenience store to a restaurant with no alteration of the building or parking area. Carol motioned that the CC submit a 'no comment' response to the PB. Lea Anne seconded. Five voted in favor, none opposed. Kevin abstained. The motion passed.
- b. **Taylor Community Subdivision** – This action involves the deeding back of 24 acres along Church road to the Congregational Church because it has not been developed within the timeframe stipulated in the agreement between Taylor and the Church. The property abuts the existing Taylor conservation easement and Third Range Road (a Class VI road). The CC agreed that because of the tract's proximity to the existing conservation land, wetlands, and the Class VI road, that our response should request the PB to encourage the Church to consider a conservation easement on the property.
- c. **National Powersports Distributors, 718 Riverwood Dr.** – This involves a change of use whereby part of the existing operations will be moved from 701 Riverwood Drive. Both the existing and proposed sites are in the aquifer overlay district. The operation involves the internet sales, storage and shipping of used motorcycles. No servicing of the vehicles is involved. However, gasoline will be drained from motorcycle tanks into 20-gallon fuel-storage containers which will be picked up on a regular basis. The operator utilizes NHDES' best-management practices (BMPs) for the handling of petroleum products. The CC agreed that our comment should express caution regarding the residual risk of gasoline spillage and contamination of the aquifer system despite the employment of BMPs.

**10. DES Applications** – Copies of three pieces of correspondence regarding permit applications were received from NHDES: 1. Tom & Donna Severance, Map 262 Lot 38, forestry permit for timber harvesting involving the crossing of wetlands; 2. Shawmut Property Management, Map VW Lot 243, shoreland permit application for 100 Main St. 3. Continental Paving, Map 559 Lot 6, name change for existing alteration-of-terrain permit.

**11. Mail and Correspondence** – Ammy circulated 4 pieces of general correspondence to the members, including a copy of the NH Municipal Conservation Fund Guidebook.

## 12. Other Business

- a. **Town Newsletter** - Ammy noted that the Town is not mailing its Quarterly Newsletter anymore. The newsletter will be posted on the Town web site and copies will be available at the Town Hall.
- b. **CC Facebook Page - ACTION ITEM:** Lea Anne will look into putting a link to the CC's Facebook page on the Town website.
- c. **CTAP** - Ammy noted that Vanessa Bittermann is looking for someone to head up an effort to initiate an Agricultural Commission in Pembroke that would operate under the Community Technical Assistance Program (CTAP). The original application deadline of May 1 has been extended.

**13. Adjournment:** Carol made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 PM. Stetson seconded.  
Six voted in favor, none opposed. The motion carried.

Submitted by Brian Mrazik, Secretary.

Next Meeting – June 14, 2010