

**TOWN OF CHESTERFIELD
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
NOVEMBER 1, 2006
MEETING MINUTES**

Present: Tom Duston; Chairman, Steve Fisher, Bill Tyler, Kathy Thatcher, Lynne Borofsky, Jeff Newcomer and Amy LaFontaine; Secretary.

1). Kathy moved to approve the September 27th minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Steve and passed unanimously by the Commission.

2). New Permits – Neal Herriot minimum impact expedited application to install 2 culverts for driveway crossings on Twin Brook Road. Kathy has visited the site and signed off on the application.

3). Permits, Complaints, etc –

A). Philip Lodewick – 2006-01456 Silverdale Road permit approved to repair the wall.

B). Route 63 Spofford, LLC – 2006-02510 Hutchins Stone DES has received the complaint.

C). Joseph and Alyssa Fortier – 2006-02552 Connecticut River major restoration project. Received notification from DES regarding the letter of concern from the Commission.

D). John Allard – 2006-01840 Poocham Road DES is requesting more information. Tom stated that the clearing for this property is visible from the Anne Stokes loop.

E). Albert Murphy – 2006-02494 14 Silverdale Road request for more information.

4). Report from the Chair –

A). Kathe Malloy is working on the website. Tom has not heard back from her to report how it is going. Jeff has donated \$75 to the Sentinel to maintain the website.

B). Tom wanted to evaluate the trail steward program. The Commission seems satisfied with the success. There has been good turnout for the Saturday work sessions. Lynne is keeping track of who works what hours for reimbursement from the grant.

C). The Hinsdale Conservation Commission is co-sponsoring our trail event on November 4th at 10 AM. They have mailed out fliers about the trail opening to several directors from the Friends of Pisgah.

D). Signs & Maps – Tom has changed the name to Bear Mountain Trail from Moon Ledge to Pisgah. The opening Saturday is only a small section of this trail. Tom will buy a post and the sign can be installed Saturday morning before the event. The Commission suggested putting grease on the back of the signs to prevent theft. The Madame Sheri sign has been replaced. The Historical Society will pay for ½ of it, \$150. The Commission will pay for the other half.

E). Tom announced that this will be his last year as chair. Kathy stated that she was VP of Friends of Pisgah and was already committed. Tom stated that he gets 4-5 phone calls per day about complaints and permits.

5). Other Reports –

A). Steve said he could take down some of the trees and Friedsam, but he needs a bigger chainsaw. There is grant money to pay for a new chainsaw. Steve will buy a top quality 20" chain saw, a case, 6 chains, 2 sets of chaps and a helmet. Jeff moved to authorize Steve to purchase the items listed above with an expenditure from the Conservation Fund to be reimbursed by the grant.

Lynne stated that Lou Shelley would be replacing the bridge in Madame Sherri Forest. She is trying to get him to complete paperwork. He is going to build it out of rough milled hemlock. Lou is planning to build it in the parking lot and carry it in. He is planning on taking it out mid-week in mid-November. In spring, the Commission will focus on the ladder bridge. Tom and Steve will submit hours worked on the signs.

B). Hinsdale Conservation Commission will provide beverages and cups for the event on Saturday. The trail is about .7 mile, it takes approximately 40 minutes to hike but it is a moderately strenuous trail. Invitations and posters have been mailed out and posted. Lynne would like to set up refreshments at the top of the trail, prior to the hike. Lynne would like to see the mailing list updated. Steve and Tom will post the sign at 9AM Saturday morning.

C). Steve and Tom attended a trails meeting in Keene. This is an umbrella organization for county to plan trails.

D). Kathy worked with the Chesterfield School to bring two 4th grade classes into Friedsam forest. They were separated into 2 groups. The fit group hiked the Sargent Trail. Laurel Powell was concerned about the trail down to the ravine bridge from the upper lot, so they bushwhacked around it. The unfit group walked down Twin Brook Road and did a little bit in Ancient Oaks trail. The students had a small plant lecture. Kathy gave them all nature journals and a pencil, and they had cider and apples. There is a 1st grade teacher interested in the future. The school required someone with CPR training to accompany the students.

E). Kathy suggested Mary Maxwell to repaint the Audrey's meander sign in Friedsam Forest.

F). Tom wanted to look at the site for the Fed-Ex proposal.

6). The meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amy LaFontaine
Secretary

Approved:

Tom Duston, Chairman

Date: _____