

**TOWN OF CHESTERFIELD
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 26, 2009**

Present: Lynne Borofsky, Chairman; Steve Fisher, Tom Duston, Kathy Thatcher, David Wood, Jon McKeon, Selectboard Representative (arrived at 7:50 PM) and Amy LaFontaine, Secretary

1). Tom moved to approve June 26th minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Steve and passed unanimously.

2). **NRI** – Jeff passed around an updated map of property that he has permission to visit for the NRI. Jeff reviewed some discrepancies for the property owner list. He does not have forms from Upnorth Realty Trust, URO Realty & Sanford Wilson. It was determined that Al Griggs is Upnorth Realty. Jeff has a return envelope for Sanford Wilson but no Form. Jeff is in the process of assessing wetlands that he has access too. Sites will be visited by September. Jeff saw a property on Poocham Road that he would like access too. Jon stated that the property was owned by his in-laws the Robertson's and he would put Jeff in contact with them. The Commission tentatively set a date for the 3rd Community Forum on October 24th. Another Taste of the Greenway hike was suggested or a hike on Muffin Mountain. There is no trail on Muffin Mountain yet because the Mountain Laurel is high. This trail has traditionally been a snowshoe but the plan is for a trail. Jeff talked about a program called "Land for Good" which earmarks farming land for entering or exiting farmers. If a farmer retires and his family is not interested in farming then an entrance farmer may be able to lease the land and keep the land farming. Tom stated that he would be interested in leasing out his land for farming.

3). Outstanding Permits, Complaints –

A). Joseph & Alyssa Fortier – 2009-01321 Shoreland Permit. DES states the application is missing some items on July 20th.

B). Sharon Webb – 2009-00918 Shoreland Impact approved with conditions on July 16th. The property is located on 280 North Shore Road.

C). Peter & Gwendolyn Smith – 2009-00834 Shoreland Impact approved with conditions on June 17th. The property is located at 2A Dompier Drive.

D). Camp Spofford – 2009-01383 Wetlands & Non-Site Specific Permit Approved with conditions on July 14th. Tom & Kathy looked at the property.

E). Scott Coburn – 2009-00992 Shoreland Permit Approved August 18th. The property is located at 163 Route 9A.

4). Grants & Events –

A). The Commission discussed another taste of the Greenway Hike. The Commission will hike to Muffin Mountain on September 5th. They will meet at 10 AM at Tom's House.

B). Lew Shelley completed the steps in Friedsam Forest up to the parking lot on Route 63. There will be a bill from the Town for a Yard & ½ of Fill. There is extra fill. Is there another project? Kathy suggested the Madame Sherri parking lot. Lew also replaced the Pallet Bridge on the Ancient Oaks Trail. The Commission could put in a wheelchair accessible trail to the Ancient Oaks Trees.

C). Lynne asked if there were any grants or projects anyone was interested in pursuing at this time? Tom suggested putting in a Trail from Prouty Road to Old Swanzey Road with 3 crews next spring.

5). Spofford Lake Report – David stated that there is a group of new members on the Spofford Lake Association. They are looking at the impact of the fireworks on the Lake. Does the Lake Association want to continue to be associated with it? David mailed 3 samples of potential milfoil out to DES from the Spofford Post Office. They were never received by DES. David asked if there was more money available for the Milfoil Prevention if the Lake Association extended the season? The Commission felt that there was. The money is voted out of the Conservation fund for the donation to Milfoil Prevention Program. The Shoreland Protection Act does not allow fertilizer within 25 feet of the Lake.

6). Tools – Steve delivered the Chainsaw to Fireside last week. The Trailer is back at the recycling center. Both keys are there.

7). Trail Stewards, Trail Development, & Land Projects –

A). Tom passed out an updated map from the Monadnock Conservancy. Lynne will contact Chris Gamache. Tom would like to put up kiosks on Route 63 just beside Kilburn and Plain Road and Brattleboro. Lynne asked Tom to keep in mind what the map would look like in Black & White. Prospect Park Press is offering 200 trail maps for \$43.

B). Southern NH Trail Guide is being revised in 2010. Tom is submitting write-ups for the Bear Mountain and Monadnock-Wantastiquet Trail.

C). The Commission has been to the Selectboard about the purchase of the Chickering property. The Selectboard does not want to pursue this property at this time. The Commission will honor that request.

D). The Colony property is crucial to the California Brook Forest. Tom will be pursuing a proposal for this project.

E). Tom will be asking the Selectboard for gates on both ends of Old Prouty Road because of the trash that is being dumped there and illegal logging. There are only 3 property owners, Hanna, Forecastle and Colony, who have all agreed to have the road gated. The Commission will be looking at the costs of gates. Jon suggested getting a Knox box. The Knox box is a universal key used by the Fire Department for emergencies.

8). Report from Selectmen –

A). Schaefer – 4 lot Subdivision that crosses the wetlands on Route 9. The Planning Board does not give the Conservation Commission permission access to property. The properties were approved by DOT for the 2 accesses. The visibility on Route 9 is poor.

B). Fijol – The wetlands application expired, but the application was voided when the Zoning Board denied the variance for the Site plan. There are still outstanding violations from the work that was done without a permit. Jon stated that there is a line on all Planning Board Applications asking for Conservation Commission review.

9). Other – Tom moved to approve the 2010 budget as submitted. The motion was seconded by Kathy and passed unanimously. If the Commission wants to submit any warrant articles they will need to be completed by the next meeting.

10). The next meeting will be September 23rd. Tom will be the Chair. The following meeting will be October 28th. Steve will be the Chair. The meeting adjourned at 9:52 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy LaFontaine
Secretary

Approved:

Lynne Borofsky
Chairman