

**TOWN OF CHESTERFIELD  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 25, 2009**

Present: Steve Fisher, Chairman; Tom Duston, Kathy Thatcher, Lynne Borofsky, Jeff Newcomer (arrived at 7:40 PM) and Amy LaFontaine, Secretary.

1). Spofford Fire Commissioners, Dave Thomas and Chet Greenwood, were present to request the Conservation Commission recommend the sale of the Spofford Fire Station per RSA 41:14-a. The RSA requires the Commission's review to ensure that the land is not considered valuable Conservation land. The lot is slightly larger than the building. Parking and Septic are inadequate. A P&S has been received. The Spofford Fire Precinct is required to get Planning Board and CCC approval. Tom will write a letter.

2). **NRI** – Jeff Littleton was present to discuss NRI issues. The Commission went over the volunteer packet. Tom wanted the topo map to reflect all of the Conservation property in Chesterfield. Jeff L is waiting for the package from SWRP that will give him the map and lot #'s. Tom had a map from the Monadnock Conservancy that was more accurate. The GPS workshop will be Thursday April 16<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 – 7:30 PM at the Town Hall. The Vernal pool workshop will be May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 1 PM to 4 PM either at the Town Hall or in the Selectmen's Office. Amy will let Carol know to remove the Commission's use of the Town Hall on April 18<sup>th</sup> and check on the availability of May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Jeff L will define Vernal Pool at the workshop. Be on the look out for Amphibian Crossings on warm, rainy nights (42-44 degrees). Spotted Salamanders, Jefferson Salamanders, Wood Frogs and Peepers are examples of the species to look at. When you hear "Wildlife Corridors" you think about bear, moose and bear. There are also smaller critters that need corridors as well, ie; amphibians.

The map of unfragmented land was reviewed. It actually looks pretty accurate. Route 9 bisects the Town, but may actually be a positive development. The Commission reviewed the Landowner Letter and access form. The letter will be mailed to property owners with 50 acres or more. Jeff L would like a copy of landowners who have received that letter so he can send out another letter to wetland property owners. Amy will enter the property owners into an excel spreadsheet for labels. Lynne will drop off the list of property owners to Amy. Jeff L suggested not sending the letter to property owners that we know will be antagonistic. Lynne wanted to sign each landowner letter personally. Jeff L asked about Cynthia's Wildlife Action Plan. Tom has some management work that he would like to have her do in Friedsam. Lynne will put together a brochure to post around Town about the workshops. Potential Volunteers will be e-mailed.

3). Tom moved to approve February 25<sup>th</sup> minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Kathy and passed unanimously.

**4). Permits, Complaints, etc. –**

A). Chris & Sally Norton have submitted a new alteration of terrain application from CT Valley Environmental Services, Inc.. Tom will review it on Friday.

B). Harry & Audrey Ericson – Kathy will call Beaver Solutions.

C). Alex Kwader –Alteration of Terrain permit has been approved. Abutters for Alteration of Terrain applications do not need to be notified.

D). Lost Cloud is in the process of logging the Wright easement. The Commission did a snowshoe out to the site. Merrifield Road and Bradley Road have been completely plowed. The logging is not near the trail yet. The intent to cut permit ends in September 2009. All the Logging Equipment has been moved out because of the mud.

**5). Grants & Events** – Lynne is proposing a Celebrating Chesterfield Outdoors series of work sessions that she will put together for the next meeting. These events could include the trail stewards and be used to do work for the NRI.

B). Lynne is meeting with Rick tomorrow at 4 PM about submitting a FEMA grant for the 18 trees down in Friedsam Forest and 21 trees in Ann Stokes and Daniels Mountain.

C). Lynne would like to have a celebration dinner in the fall for all of the volunteers that have helped with the NRI and guest of honor, Bill Tyler for his service to the Commission. The Commission needs a formal resignation from Bill. The Commission voted at the last meeting to increase membership to 7. David would be appointed a regular member.

**6). Tools** - Lynne still needs to order loppers and hand held clippers.

**7). Land Projects** – Tom will present a status for projects every month going forward. Tom presented an estimate of transaction costs for the Haley Easement. Tom moved to expend up to \$7,500 from the Conservation Fund for the Pat Haley easement. The motion was seconded by Steve and passed unanimously. Lynne asked for a tally of committed funds from the Fund by the next meeting. There is currently \$199,488.82 in the account as of January 1, 2009 and 3 checks outstanding. There was \$25,000 from LUC taxes and \$8,592.31 in earned interest.

**8). Other** –

A). 5k Run on Madame Sherri – The property is owned by 5 different people. Tom raised several other issues about liability as well. Lester has signed off on the parking.

B). Amy and Tom will be attending the Innovative Land Use workshop on Saturday.

C). The Commission has no objection to the sale of Spofford Fire Station.

D). Cynthia Nichols will be hosting a workshop in Pisgah and she is still collecting survey data for the use of Pisgah.

**9). Adjournment** - The next meeting will be April 15<sup>th</sup>. Jeff will be Chair. Jeff moved to adjourn at 9:55 PM. The motion was seconded by Kathy and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy LaFontaine  
Secretary

Approved:

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Steve Fisher, Chairman

Date: \_\_\_\_\_