

**TOWN OF CHESTERFIELD
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 3, 2010**

Present: David Wood, Chairman; Tom Duston, Jeff Newcomer, Lynne Borofsky, Kathy Thatcher and Amy LaFontaine, Secretary.

1). Tom moved to approve the January 27th minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Jeff and passed unanimously.

2). Permits, Complaints – David asked Amy to talk about the wetlands tracking reports. The purged approvals are part of the file that Amy sends monthly. It is not printed out monthly. The gray highlighted ones are the once that have come in since the last meeting. Agenda items are also highlighted. Kathy will call on some older outstanding complaints that have not had activity in the last 6 months or so. Tom suggested a form letter on Conservation letterhead. Jeff asked if there was another way to sort the file, by type of permit, etc..

A). Jeff Dunham – 2009-02200 LOD received 2/22/2010. This is different than the application approved December 29th.

B). New England Power Company Transmission Line Reconductoring – 2009-02724 Chesterfield & 2009-02563 Hinsdale.

C). Chris & Sally Norton – Prehearing Trial 3/17/2010.

D). PPT, Inc. – 2010-00059 Shoreland Application 41 Red Road approved with Conditions February 23rd through 2/23/2015.

3). Grants & Events – There will be a snowshoe on Saturday at 10 AM. It will be publicized in the Brattleboro Reformer, Shopper and the Star Spangled Banner. There are no grants in process at this time.

4). Spofford Lake Report – David handed out his flier for summer lake hosts. Tom suggested posting it at Town Meeting.

5). Land Projects, etc. –

A). Tom stated that the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid had been discovered in Chesterfield. The letter was supposed to be mailed out to all residents. Several members had not seen the notification there is a phone number to call if you find that your hemlock trees are infested.

B). Yankee Arrowhead property may become an easement in 9 years once the property owner has resolved his tax issues.

C). Browne Limited Partnership subdivision is moving forward. The number of lots have been reduced to 7 along the road and 2 larger projects in back. Tom received the Commission's approval to write a letter to the Planning Board.

D). An accounting from the Monadnock Conservancy was received. The Commission donated \$7,500 from the Conservation Fund to the Haley easement and \$846 from the Landowner Assistance Fund. The Commission donated \$5,000 from the

Conservation Fund to the Fletcher/Doyle easement and \$2,000 from the Landowner Assistance Fund.

E). The Commission discussed the next step for the NRI. The final report should be posted for review. The Commission discussed hiring someone to write a Conservation Plan for the Town. Gathering a Committee of local volunteers was also suggested. Tom will get estimates on cost. The cost of the NRI was \$16,280.

F). The balance in the Conservation Fund is \$190,650.86. Forecastle Timber is looking to buy the Colony Property. Tom moved to expend up to \$100,000 for the Colony Project. The amount expended will be a percentage of the actual price equal to \$100,000/current appraisal value (as of 3/6/2010). The motion was seconded by Kathy and passed unanimously. The Monadnock Conservancy would be the Easement holder and the Town would be the back-up holder. Jeff was concerned about publishing the amount the Commission is willing to expend. Tom stated that there were so many contributors that a negotiable price can't be determined solely on the Commissions contribution.

G). Tom moved to enter non-public session per RSA 91-A:3II(c). The motion was seconded by Kathy and passed unanimously. Tom moved to exit non-public session. The motion was seconded by Kathy and passed unanimously.

H). Old Prouty Road will be posted against motorized vehicles because of the trash at Old Colony Pond. The Selectmen recently voted on the issue. Tom wanted the Commission to be prepared for any negative comments.

I). There have not been any further snowmobile tracks at the Lower Parking Lot in Friesdam.

6). Other –

A). The next meeting will be March 24th. Lynne will be the chair. Tom will be the chair on April 28th and Steve will be the chair on May 26th.

B). Kathy stated that Beaver Solutions has sent a bill for \$280 to maintain the beaver device on Route 63 across from Friesdam Forest. The Commission purchased the service last year through the contract. There was a \$100 discount because the contract was signed in May. Waders might cost the Commission as much.

C). The NRI only has \$1,320 left to expend. Since it has been more than a year since it was voted it might need to be voted again before expending.

D). Kathy stated that files needed to be sorted and tossed. Amy stated that she would not throw anything related to a specific property away. It may be worth cross-filing in the Selectmen folders. Amy is not seeking any additional hours of work from the Town at this time.

7). The meeting adjourned at 9:34 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy LaFontaine
Secretary