

HOLLIS CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting

December 5, 2007

Approved February 20, 2008

Present: Tom Dufresne, Cathy Hoffman, Richard Brown, Susan Durham, Lynne Simonfy, Gary Flaherty, Thom Davies, Lloyd Deenik, Mark Johnson, Connie Cain-Staff.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES

Land Protection Study Committee – Thom Davies

Last meeting was held November 29th.

- Roger Saunders was arranging for a presentation by Phil O'Shea on land preservation;
- Members agreed that looking into preserving smaller parcels should be the priority for 2008, e.g. a parcel that is big enough to subdivide another house lot from, but too small in size to qualify for Current Use, and the methods on preserving these properties. David Gilmour was to contact Town Hall staff and/or Jim Oehler on mapping these properties.

T. Dufresne informed the HCC that Roger Saunders had contacted him about holding a joint meeting for Phil O'Shea's presentation, since both organizations would benefit from the presentation. Date agreed on was February 6, 2008 during the HCC's regular meeting.

Board of Selectmen – Mark Johnson

Last meeting held December 3rd.

- Future use of Town Hall. Discussion about the possibility of moving Town Hall to another location. Master plan states must remain in the center of Town. In reviewing Master Plan, BOS thought might be time to update.
- Transfer station policy is in effect.
- In the December 5, 2007 edition of the Nashua Telegraph, article regarding the State receiving a grant from FEMA for a flood study. One of the items that this study is to determine is who is responsible for maintenance, etc. on dams within the State. A hearing on this matter will be held by the State on Wednesday, December 12th in Concord. M. Johnson referred to the article for the location and time.

Planning Board – Cathy Hoffman

Last meeting held December 4th.

- Discussion and public hearing on Zoning Ordinances. Some changes were significant and the PB will hold another public hearing on those.
- Exceptions to the sign ordinance regarding signs for Organization groups, such as Rotary or the Lions Clubs. The type of sign discussed was the metal informational sign at Town entrances. This will be back in front of the PB for public hearing.

Treasurer's Report – Thom Davies

Not available at meeting time.

LAND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE UPDATE

At the last meeting, Peter Baker had made the HCC aware of a potential issue on a trail in the vicinity of Duncklee Pond. G. Flaherty performed a site walk to determine if there were any wetland or other

violations due to the work performed during a trail upgrade. G. Flaherty stated that he did not see any evidence of violations; work was done on an old trail to enhance the usability, and while there was some evidence of boundary violations, both DRED and the NH Trails Committee inspected the site and did not have any issues with the work performed. All three bridges were inspected, and both G. Flaherty and the State representatives agreed that the bridges were bank-to-bank and replaced existing structures. No wetland disturbance was evident. G. Flaherty flagged the wetland areas, and inspected the erosion controls put into place; felt they were very well done. He will be sending copies of his report to DRED and the NH Trails Committee, but felt no further action was necessary at this time. He felt it was still a good idea for the HCC to inspect the trails with the Trails Committee prior to any work being performed.

G. Flaherty added that the NH Trails Committee will be contacting the Hollis Trails Committee about other trails in that area; trails are very steep and they would like to take action to cut the grade back.

ANNUAL MONITORING UPDATE – Hollis Brookline High School Parking Lot

T. Dufresne called Tom Enright of the HBHS School Board on Nov. 29, 2007; but no response to date. Dave Gagnon, Building Inspector contacted Dave Orde of Hollis Construction and received response earlier today. Parking lot expansion is going to run parallel to the street in the direction of the soccer fields. At this point in time, there is some distance between the parking lot and the 50-foot buffer, but any further expansion could create an issue.

OTHER BUSINESS

NH Department of Transportation – Culvert replacement, Depot Road

T. Dufresne received notice from the NHDOT regarding the replacement of the culvert on Depot Road, near the intersection with Twiss Lane. This culvert allows Sucker Brook to flow under Depot Road, and was heavily damaged during flooding earlier this year. The notice asked for any historical information on the area, such as the location of stone walls, historical structures, etc. No date given for commencement of work. T. Dufresne will research and will contact the DOT with any information.

SIERGIEWICZ PROPERTY – South Merrimack Road

Stella Demetri, the real estate agent representing Doris Siergiewicz in the sale of her house and adjoining property, contacted T. Dufresne. An appraisal was performed on the 21-acre parcel that Mrs. Siergiewicz wishes to sell to the HCC, value was given at approximately \$3900 an acre, or \$82,000 total. Land is very wet, and not suitable for building. T. Dufresne will contact Stella Demetri regarding price.

L. Simonfy asked if any further contact had been received regarding the Nashua airport expansion and land remediation; she felt that this property would be one that could potentially fall within the parameters for the remediation. T. Dufresne has not received any further communication on this to date.

VOLUNTEER FAIR – HBHS Honor Society

S. Durham will be putting together a presentation of this event, to take place on December 12, 2007 at HBHS. She asked if members had ideas on what projects/services the students could participate in conjunction with the HCC. Some thoughts were:

- Roadside and lot specific cleanups;
- HBHS water testing;
- Culvert inspection and report to Town;
- Walk trails and inspect for trash, condition, etc.;
- Monitor Town properties for dumping of yard and construction waste;
- Contribute conservation articles to the HBHS & local newspapers to raise conservation issues and awareness.

S. Durham asked if C. Hoffman still had the blown-up maps used at Old Home Days and Town Meeting to use at presentation. C. Hoffman will try to locate.

MINUTES

Minutes of meeting November 28, 2007 were reviewed. Motion made by T. Dufresne to accept as written, seconded by C. Hoffman. All in favor; none opposed, (T. Davies, R. Brown and L. Deenik abstained).

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by S. Durham, seconded by T. Dufresne. All in favor; none opposed. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Cain
Clerical Support