

Cornish Conservation Commission
Minutes of Wednesday, September 24, 2008, Unapproved

Present: Jim Barker, Bill Gallagher (Chair), John Hammond, Betty Miller, Rickey Poor, Gabe Zoerheide and guests Dan Flynn and Frank Parks

Minutes: John moved to approve the minutes of August 27. Jim seconded and the motion passed. Jim moved to approve the minutes of September 4. John seconded and the motion passed.

Property Adjacent to Town Office: John provided an update from the Selectboard. Since the fundraising goal hasn't quite been reached yet, the Commission discussed ways to help the Selectboard raise additional funds. Letters and various postings were discussed. Jim moved to contribute \$500 from the Barker Fund toward purchase of the Clark property. Rickey seconded and the motion passed.

Barker Fund: Nancy Newbold is still a signer on this account but no longer on the Commission. Gabe nominated Rickey and Jim to be new signers, with bank statements sent to Rickey. John seconded and the vote was in favor.

Posts for Trail Signs: Rickey reported for Linda on the current status of obtaining posts for the trail signs for the CREA property. Rickey moved to allow Linda to spend up to \$200 from the Palmer Fund for posts. Jim seconded and the motion passed.

Updates/News/Announcements

- Gabe mentioned that about 5 acres of land have been cleared on the Bulkeley property for a field/wildlife management area.
- Betty mentioned that she joined Steve Walker (NH Conservation Land Stewardship Office) and Brian Meyette to monitor the easement on the Joe and Peggy Meyette property on September 3. They discussed the forest management plan and recognized that recent logging benefits wildlife, releases apple and oak trees, and provides additional trails.
- Rickey indicated that the annual meeting of the NH Association of Conservation Commissions usually takes place the first week of November. Watch for notices of the date.
- Gabe spoke of the Orange County Headwaters Project, an interesting model for land conservation in the Washington and Corinth, Vermont area.
- Rickey asked about the Farnsworth property. The Commission discussed next steps but made no decisions.
- Betty would like to see two analyses: (1) compare how much of the property tax dollar in Cornish goes to open space vs. housing (and perhaps commercial) and (2) what is the impact to the individual property tax payer if revenues from the land use change tax go to the general fund rather than the conservation fund. John said the second is already known – for every \$1800 increase in the town budget, there is a \$0.01 increase for every \$1,000 of property valuation.
- Clark Camp Road is closed between the Edsons and Center Road.

Adjournment: Jim made a motion to adjourn at 8:35. John seconded and the vote passed.

Next Meeting: Public Hearing regarding use of Conservation Fund Tuesday, September 30, 7:30 p.m. followed by a special meeting of the Conservation Commission. **Next Regular Meeting:** Wednesday, October 22, 2008

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Miller