

Cornish Conservation Commission

Minutes of Wednesday, July 26, 2006, Unapproved

Present: Bill Gallagher, Mary Beth Heiskell, Betty Miller, Don Snowden (Chair), Mike Yatsevitch, and Gabe Zoerheide

Minutes: Gabe asked for a change in the "Officers" section of the minutes to "Gabe's tenure on the Commission is indefinite." Mike moved to approve the minutes of June 28 as corrected, Gabe seconded, and the motion passed.

Bridge on West Pass Road: Mike took a look at the bridge near Corbin Park and didn't notice much change in the last 30 or 50 years. Don also took a look and was impressed with its integrity. All agreed it was good to have it posted nonetheless.

Totem Pole: The unveiling/celebration was a success with 30 or more people in attendance. Don thanked Mary Beth for her efforts in organizing the event. There was discussion regarding the year of award as well as plaques. Mary Beth submitted a bill from Scoop Dreams for \$60. Bill moved that it be paid from the Barker Fund. Gabe seconded and the motion passed.

Conservation Plan: The Commission continued its review of the draft; much time was spent looking at maps to determine conservation priorities.

W-149 Power Line: Don read a letter from the National Grid indicating that New England Power will begin refurbishing the power line, a process which will take 1-2 years.

Adjournment: Mary Beth made a motion to adjourn at 9:20. Gabe seconded and the vote passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Miller

Cornish Conservation Commission

Minutes of Wednesday, June 28, 2006, Approved, with Changes

Present: Bill Gallagher, John Hammond, Mary Beth Heiskell, Mariet Jaarsma, Betty Miller, Don Snowden (Chair), Mike Yatsevitch, and Gabe Zoerheide

Minutes: Mike asked that the word "steam" be corrected to "stream." Clarification was added to explain why DES would be involved in a timber harvest (because it is near wetlands). Mike moved to approve the minutes of May 24 as corrected, Gabe seconded, and the motion passed.

DES (and related) Matters

- In two separate issues, George Edson and Scott Kearns are interested in dredging brooks that dry up in the summer. The Selectboard asked Don to have the Commission take a look. Don has met with Scott and also talked with DES.
- Don expressed concern to road agent Dan Flynn that some fill has gone a little close to the stream along Center Road where some ditching has been done.
- Don visited the West Pass Road site again. The stream looks good; there's no evidence of siltation. Bob Hall has filed an intent to cut on this property.
- Everett Cass expressed concern about the condition of the stone bridge near Corbin Park. He suggested the town post it so oversize trucks can't go over it.

Conservation Plan: The Commission reviewed the draft and made additional revisions. Mary Beth will circulate the revised document and we'll aim to finalize it at our next meeting. Then, at the August meeting, we'll begin to look at maps. Once the plan is final, we'll share it with town boards. The Commission also reviewed the Planning Board's vision statement. Discussion included cluster development and a rural way of life.

Natural Resources Inventory: Cheston Newbold and Don talked about the Commission and Planning Board jointly applying for an Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission grant to update the natural resources inventory. Perhaps an outside consultant could also be involved.

Totem Pole: Done! Don will oversee transportation and installation at the town office. The Commission will host an ice cream social at 7 p.m. on July 19 to unveil the totem pole. Mary Beth will handle publicity.

Meeting Updates: Bill gave an update on the cell tower situation and reported on a biodiesel conference he went to at the Vermont Law School.

Cornish Town Properties: Don distributed a list of 36 town owned properties (ranging in size from less than a half acre to 270 acres) and will go over it at the next meeting.

Conservation Properties: The Commission discussed the Chapman property.

Officers: Election next meeting; Don and Betty encouraged others to consider taking on the positions of Chair and Secretary. Gabe's tenure on the Commission is indefinite.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 9:50.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Miller