

Town of Deerfield NH Conservation Commission
February 14, 2011 Minutes

Present: Erick Berglund, Serita Frey, Kate Hartnett, Dave Linden, Herb McKinney, Diane Thompson

Members Absent: Wes Golomb

Visitors:

Sharon and Mark Williams were present for the DCC's comments following their review of the Forest Management Plan. Patrick Kenney of Fort Mountain Companies submitted the revision of their first draft submitted at the January meeting. The commission noted that the goals were now clearly articulated and that best management practices were being adhered to. The revised plan also addresses the issue of ATV use on the property. There was some discussion about a 17.65-acre section that had been poorly maintained, but would now be heavily cut to open it up for regeneration, which will create wildlife habitat. The wetlands appear to be well cared for and should not be adversely impacted during the cut because of their strategy for crossing using old logging roads. Both Sharon and Mark Williams expressed gratitude for the role the DCC had played in guiding them toward a clear plan for the land, resulting in a more valuable property and a "road map" for future owners. Kate Hartnett reiterated the importance of this tract in relation to Deerfield's Open Space Plan.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to accept the January 2011 minutes as read.

Financial Officer's Report:

The current balance of the Conservation Fund as of 1/31/11 was \$359,626.73, which includes Wadsworth Winslow memorials of \$1180. Acknowledgements will be mailed to the donors. In addition, a list of contributors was sent to Faith Barry, Mr. Winslow's daughter, along with a letter expressing the commission's gratitude to the family for suggesting memorials to the DCC.

It was moved, seconded and unanimously approved to pay the Upton Hatfield invoice of \$136.00 for their work on the appropriate legal wording of Warrant Article #11.

Erick Berglund has contacted the Town Treasurer regarding investment alternatives to the money market fund, which is currently yielding poor returns on the DCC funds.

Land Conservation:

Project #25: We have not yet received a reply from Dan Kern on the status of the agreement submitted for the \$4000 grant from the Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership, which will be used to offset some of the costs.

Project #26: A formal motion to pursue was postponed until we have received a summary appraisal.

Cottonwood Estates: Based on information received since the January 2011 meeting we are delaying action on the motion made at that meeting until we pursue one additional avenue of outreach to the individual property owners.

Town Forest Protection Project:

The members were updated on the status of Warrant Article #11 presented at the February 5th Town Deliberative Session.

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New Business:

The commission reviewed and Serita Frey signed a Permit by Notification to “repair and reinforce crumbling wall areas” of a breakwater on Northwood Lake for Douglas Danoff, 34 Baker Avenue (owner).

Old Business:

We have not yet received approval from the BOS for new member Herb McKinney’s appointment to a three-year term.

At the Select Board’s request, Serita Frey, Erick Berglund, Wes Golomb and Herb McKinney represented the DCC at a meeting with the BOS on January 31st, the first of its quarterly meetings. Serita Frey updated the Board on current DCC activities including the Town Forest Protection Project, Land Conservation Projects and Cottonwood Estates.

Announcements and Correspondence: None

Adjournment: 9:10 PM

Note: The DCC met from 6-7 pm before the regular meeting to look over materials that Judy Marshall is sorting and filing. We discussed what materials should be kept and how they should be filed. No business was discussed or votes taken.

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The draft minutes were prepared and submitted by Judy Marshall. Final revisions to these minutes will be contained in the minutes of the following meeting, after approval by the Deerfield Conservation Commission.