

**Fremont Conservation Commission**  
**07-20-09 Minutes**



**Fremont Conservation Commission**  
**Minutes of July 20, 2009**  
Approved August 31, 2009

Present: Chairman John (Jack) Karcz, Members Janice O'Brien, Pat deBeer and Recording Secretary Meredith Bolduc.

Chrm. Karcz opened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

**MINUTES**

Mbr. O'Brien made the motion to accept the minutes of the June 15, 2009 meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Mbr. deBeer with unanimous favorable vote.

**SUZANNE WICKS**

29 Rowe Drive, Map 3 Lot 093

At 7:02 pm Ms. Wicks met with the Commission to report the use of herbicides and/or pesticides near her property and to see if the Commission could direct her as to how to protect her property from invading chemicals and toxic seepage. Ms. Wicks related that during this year's spring school vacation she found a man who works at the Ellis School spraying "Round-Up" along the property line she shares with the School. (she submitted some "anecdotal information" on Round-Up) Ms. Wicks complained that she received no response to her phone calls to the School relative to this issue or to an unrelated issue of a newly developed Nature Trail. She asked if there is any legislation to control how close to a property line someone can administer chemicals. Chrm. Karcz said that he knows of no such legislation. Ms. Wicks asked how she could move forward with possibly getting a Zoning Ordinance implemented for a possible property line buffer (she suggested 10') relative to the use of pesticides/herbicides. Mbr. deBeer suggested that she go to the Office of Energy and Planning for information and maybe some guidance. Other suggestions were; 1) to see if there are other towns who have such an ordinance; 2) speak with the Planning Board to see if there would be support at that level for such an ordinance.

Chrm. Karcz noted that the use of chemicals by a neighbor is a civil issue and since the abutter is the Ellis School Ms. Wicks should contact the School Board if she wished to pursue her complaint.

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Ms. Wicks thanked the Commission and left the meeting at 7:25 pm.

#### **NATURAL RESOURCE PUBLICATION**

At 7:25 pm Dave Kellam, Project Coordinator for PREP met with the Conservation Commission and submitted a draft of a publication called "Citizens Guide to Protecting Fremont's Water Resources". This publication is in newspaper format and includes photographs pertinent to subject topics. Mr. Kellam said this meeting is to move the draft forward and touch base on content and layout.

Mr. Kellam said that an article on the topic of buffers needs to be done and Mbr. deBeer said that she would do that. Mr. Kellam went through the draft with the Members. References and formats were discussed. There was a conversation relative to a guideline and database with click-by-click directions on how to get your septic system and well information that Mbr. deBeer authored for this publication. Other topics discussed for the publication included landscaping, prime wetland designation including the Prime Wetland Map, vernal pools, drinking water, riparian buffers and corridors, flooding, State and local ordinances, the Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act, and the role of Fremont's Conservation Commission.

Mr. Kellam agreed to meet with the Members again at 1:00 pm on August 5 and 7:30 on August 17, 2009.

#### **TRAILS**

The tent previously reported in the Town Forest at Glen Oakes has been removed by the Police Chief. It has been noticed that the Town Ordinance is silent about campfires and tenting. It was agreed to keep this on the agenda and talk about it at the next meeting.

Mbr. de Beer said that Mr. Harwood would like to come to the next meeting to report his progress on the trails.

#### **ERLAC**

Mbr. deBeer reported that new legislation has been passed including designating the Cocheco River into the Rivers Management and Protection Program, establishing the New Hampshire volunteer river assessment program in state statute, legislation that allows communities to adopt fluvial erosion hazard ordinances and legislation that establishes an in-lieu fee option for impacts to streams (\$200 per linear foot of channel or bank impacts or both. Thus a culverted stream would mitigate at \$600 per linear foot.

#### **PRIME WETLAND**

Mrs. Bolduc reported that she contacted Mark West again today to relate that the Commission has still not received the CD of the Fremont Prime Wetland ARCview Shape files that he agreed to provide and requested that he follow-up with his GIS professional who was supposed to send the CD.

#### **CONSERVATION COMMISSION ACCOUNT BALANCES**

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The Commission received and reviewed the account balance sheets for the dates ending May 31, and June 30, 2009. The balances in all accounts reflected interest earned for that time period.

#### BUDGET

The Members received and reviewed the Conservation Commission expenditure report as of July 17, 2009 which reflected expenditures in line 4610-006 - Training & Seminars, 4610-008 - Membership dues and 4610-020 - ERLAC dues.

The Members also received a July 9, 2009 correspondence from the Selectmen relative to the 2010 process and core budget deadline of August 6, 2009. Mrs. Bolduc reported that an August 20, 2009 meeting with the Selectmen has been scheduled to present the Conservation Commission budget.

After review and discussion of the 2010 Conservation Commission budget #4610 the Members agreed that all lines should remain unchanged from 2009 resulting in a flat line budget of \$3,322 for 2010.

001 – Photographs: \$20

002 – Postage: \$100

004 - Copies/office supplies: \$150

005 – Document purchases: \$100

*RSA updates and Handbooks*

006 – Meetings and seminars: \$1,000

*Includes workshops available to Conservation Commission members. Although there has been only \$215 spent from this line to date, it is expected that there will be more spending for workshops and seminars that are held in the fall. Typically workshops are held mostly in the spring and fall.*

008 – Membership dues: \$300

*(\$250 = NH Association of CC- increased last year by \$50; \$50 = SPNHF)*

010 – Conservation Improvement: \$1

020 - Exeter River LAC: \$150

050 - Conservation fund: \$1

500 – Conservation Projects: \$1,500

*Remains unchanged because there is a possibility for spending for appraisal in the near future. This line is also used to fund further development in the Spruce Swamp and Town Forest areas.*

#### INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE

1. Received: A copy of a July 9, 2009 correspondence from the Selectmen to Representative Dan Itse relative to the use of Town property by residents for forestry purposes. (see also pg 6 of the July 11, 2009 Selectmen's minutes)
2. Received: Notice of the LGC Annual Volunteer Awards that will be part of the November 18, 2009 Annual Conference; and nomination form for same.

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3. Received: A copy of a June 15, 2009 correspondence from NH DES to Pentucket Construction ie: Mark Lagasse (Map 2 Lot 141) stating that the Standard Dredge and Fill Application he filed on June 2, 2009 was administratively incomplete and requesting a completed Application be submitted by August 14, 2009.

Mbr. deBeer made the motion to adjourn at 9:38 pm.

Motion seconded by Mbr. O'Brien with unanimous favorable vote.

Meredith Bolduc

Land Use AA/Recording Secretary