

Fremont Conservation Commission
10-05-09 Minutes



Fremont Conservation Commission
Minutes of October 5, 2009
Approved October 19, 2009

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

Chrm. Karcz opened the meeting at 7:15 pm.

MINUTES

Mbr. O'Brien made the motion to accept the minutes of the September 21, 2009 as written. Motion seconded by Mbr. Knee with unanimous favorable vote.

WETLAND AND WATERSHED PROTECTION ZONING ORDINANCE

Mrs. Bolduc reported that she spoke with Darlene Forst at NH DES Wetlands Bureau who said that they offer no buffers for golf courses for regular wetlands. They do go by the State's 100' requirement for Prime Wetland buffer.

TRAILS – Glen Oakes

Mbr. deBeer distributed a GPS/GIS map of the trails. The Members talked about modifying trail names and removing trails that go off of the Town Forest Property. One of the objectives was to simplify the purchase and placing of signs.

Chrm. Karcz reported that Mr. Howland e-mailed him advising that he went ahead and cleaned up the route that included 1) the "high road" section and 2) the more direct route, which avoided the yellow house (that is on the back of Andreski Drive) and the legacy road. Mr. Howland said in his message that the one water crossing cleaned up very nicely with a minimum of cutting, he took down one 5" pine and cleaned out a lot of dead branches, moved a rock or two and should have a good crossing in all but the highest water conditions. He rearranged a few rocks at both the rock wall crossings to give better footing.

Chrm. Karcz stated that he gave Mr. Howland permission to blaze more trees with the lime green paint. Mbr. deBeer said that Mr. Howland is not finished blazing.

There was a conversation about fixing the kiosks that are deteriorating. No decisions were made.

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NATURAL RESOURCE PUBLICATION

The Members reviewed the publication and discussed some suggestions that had been forwarded to Mbr. deBeer. Mbr. deBeer said that she and David Kellam are trying to finish the publication. The plan is to make as many corrections as they can based on the comments received, print a full size sample publication to give to the Selectmen for final review, and then get it out to the public.

ERLAC

Mbr. deBeer reported the following;

- State Representative Mike Kappler from Raymond brought to our attention the situation in Chester at the Mottolo Pig Farm. This was a superfund site 20 to 30 years ago. DES confirmed that the site had been cleaned up and permitted a new development in that area. Recently it has been discovered that wells are contaminated in that area. Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) have been detected at a depth of 750 ft and it is thought that the contamination has spread from a brook to the Exeter River. Mr. Kappler said the Selectmen in Fremont will be notified soon.
- The Fluvial Geomorphology Team has rescheduled the meeting with those interested in learning about their work for tomorrow (October 6, 2009) at 4 p.m. at the Haigh/Rowell Road Site. Mr. Knee and Mr. Karcz said they may attend.
- The nomination of the Exeter River as a Wild & Scenic River is put on hold at this time.
- The salmon fly- fishing event for kids at the Pickpocket Dam in Exeter is scheduled for October 24, 2009.
- The Fremont Brownfields project seems to be put on hold due to the lack of funding.
- ERLAC is nominating the Squamscott River for inclusion in the NH Designated Rivers Program to the NH Rivers Management Program.

VERNAL POOL STUDY AND MAPPING

The Commission received and reviewed the following Scope of Services and mapping and cost estimate for a vernal pool study that was submitted by Wetland Scientist Mark West of West Environmental, Inc.

Task 1: Meeting with Town Staff and Fremont Conservation Commission. Deliverable: Draft 2005 leaf-off Color Aerial Ortho Photo map with NWI Wetland overlay	\$400.00
Task 2: Review and research all previous data collected for Fremont Deliverable: List of Data/references and relevance	\$480.00
Task 3: Map all potential vernal pools onto 2005 leaf-off Color Aerial Ortho Photo Deliverable: Draft 2005 leaf-off Color Aerial Ortho Photo map with potential vernal pools identified and numbered.	\$880.00
Task 4: Develop protocol and conduct field verification of a sample of potential vernal pools Deliverable: Completed Vernal Pool Survey Form for each sample vernal pool evaluated with photo documentation	\$3,200.00

Task 5: Prepare final town-wide vernal pool map

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Deliverable: Town-wide vernal pool map consisting of 2005 leaf-off Color Aerial Ortho Photo map with potential vernal pools identified with digitized boundaries and numbered and delivered on paper copy and CD.	<u>\$1,780.00</u>
Task 6: Prepare final Vernal Pool Inventory Report and recommended vernal pool ordinance and recommended methodologies for vernal pool identification	
Deliverable: Final Vernal Pool Inventory Report in printed and digital form on CD.	<u>\$1,400.00</u>
Task 7: Prepare and present PowerPoint summary and final report, map to Conservation Commission	
Deliverable: Powerpoint Presentation on CD	<u>\$ 800.00</u>
	<u>Mileage and expenses \$ 750.00</u>

Total Estimated Cost including mileage and expenses: \$9,690.00

Schedule –

- October-December 2009 - Meet with Town Staff and Conservation Commission. Review and research all data collected. Map all potential vernal pools onto aerial photos.
- March-May 2009 - Conduct field verification of a sample of potential vernal pools.
- June 2009 - Prepare final town-wide vernal pool map, final Vernal Pool Inventory Report. Prepare and present PowerPoint summary and final report, map and ordinance to Conservation Commission and Planning Board.

Mbr. deBeer suggested getting a proposal from a couple of other Wetland Scientists. She suggested Patrick Seekamp. She also suggested Larry Lord at RCCD. The other Members agreed with Mbr. deBeer's suggestion that it would be good to have more than one proposal to get an idea of what someone else would include in the scope of services and mapping relative to a vernal pool study and what their cost estimate would be. Mbr. deBeer said we should ask them to spell out exactly what is in the proposal and cost estimate. It was agreed that Mr. Seekamp and Mr. Lord should be advised that aerial photos should not be included in the proposals as the Town already has those.

Mbr. O'Brien made the motion to send letters to Patrick Seekamp and Larry Lord requesting proposals and ask them to submit them by the October 19, 2009 Conservation Commission meeting. Motion seconded by Mbr. Knee with unanimous favorable vote.

Mbr. O'Brien had previously asked if there is CTAP Discretionary money left that could be used to fund a vernal pool study. Chrm. Karcz said that he spoke with RPC Executive Director Cliff Sinnott who advised him that there is another set of CTAP funds; this is a \$10,000 semi-discretionary fund. Mbr. O'Brien suggested asking Mr. Sinnott for the grant fund application and making it fit.

BUDGET

The Members received and reviewed the Conservation Commission expenditure report as of September 30, 2009.

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INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE

Received: Notice of Public Hearings on Wednesday, November 4, 2009 at 7:30 pm in the basement meeting room at the Fremont Town Hall to consider two applications submitted by Fred LeClair for his property located on Red Brook Road, Map 2 Lot 077-1.

- 1) Excavation application relative to the removal of sand.
- 2) Site Plan Review application relative to a commercial firewood operation.

Mrs. Bolduc said that comment sheets will be delayed because a plan has not yet been submitted. There was a conversation relative to the activity at the LeClair property and the close proximity to the Exeter River. Chrm. Karcz stated that Conservation Commission's concern is that the property gets reclaimed properly.

Mbr. O'Brien made the motion to adjourn at 9:45 pm.
Motion seconded by deBeer with unanimous favorable vote.

Meredith Bolduc
Land Use AA/Recording Secretary