

Conservation Commission

Wednesday, February 6, 2008
Corner Meeting House
Belmont, New Hampshire

Members Present:	Chairman K. Knowlton, G. Wells-Kay, D. Naiva, S. Rolfe
Members Absent:	Jon Pike(u), N. Wederski(e), W. Peterson(u)
Alternates Present:	M. McLetchie
Alternates Absent:	M. Lewandoski(u)
Staff:	R. Ball, D. Rollins

Chairman Knowlton appointed M. McLetchie as a voting member for tonight's meeting.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION:

Chairman Knowlton moved to enter non-public session at 6:58 p.m. in accordance with RSA 91-A:3.II.(d). Those agreed were D. Naiva, M. McLetchie, S. Rolfe, and G. Wells-Kay.

The members agreed to come out of non-public session at 8:25 p.m.

MOTION: On a motion by M. McLetchie, seconded by G. Wells-Kay, the members voted to have R. Ball make an offer to a Belmont landowner to acquire their property. (5-0)

BOARD'S ACTION-MINUTES:

G. Wells-Kay requested the minutes of January 2, 2008 be amended. On the second page, second paragraph, fifth sentence she would like it changed from "Every business will have to be evaluated" to "Every applicable business having such substances will have to be evaluated".

M. McLetchie questioned the 2008 Project Idea that D. Naiva said they should put some type of easement on the Tioga River Conservation Area. He wondered if that was needed since the property is owned by the town. R. Ball said that there is a school of thought that the Conservation Commission have a secondary easement in place to guard against changes in philosophy in the future that diverges from the current conservation philosophy.

MOTION: On a motion by D. Naiva, seconded by G. Wells-Kay, the members voted to approve the amended minutes of the January 2, 2008 meeting. (5-0)

PROPOSED AQUIFER PROTECTION ORDINANCE:

Chairman Knowlton presented the members with the final draft of the one page informational sheet about aquifers and answers to questions that may arise concerning the Aquifer Protection Ordinance. He will approach the local newspapers to have it put in. He would like to get signatures of the Planning Board Chairman and the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen along with his to show support for the ordinance.

The members decided to make a second copy and remove the information about the vote to adopt the Aquifer Protection Ordinance. This way it can be placed at the town hall and other places in town for aquifer information only to help educate the public.

The members discussed doing a newsletter to be sent out before Town Meeting. It would have the information about the aquifer. R. Ball gave the members a brochure describing the project done by The Tri-Town Water Resources Committee. This committee has members from the towns of Belmont, Northfield and Tilton who contributed their knowledge of town-specific concerns and issues regarding the stratified drift aquifer that is shared by the three towns. The project's focus was on long-term protection of the aquifer as a drinking water resource. The members thought there was a lot of information in the brochure that can be used for their newsletter. G. Wells-Kay will put together the information for the newsletter.

PROPOSED WETLANDS STUDY RFP:

R. Ball told the members that the Budget Committee asked them to cut back their budget request of \$12,000 to do the wetlands & vernal pool study. They cut it back 50% to \$6,000. The members received draft copies by R. Ball of a request for proposals to do the study. He said he would like to put the RFP out and see what it will cost. It will be for all wetlands over 2 acres in size.

STAFF REPORT:

STONINGTON OPEN SPACE:

R. Ball told the members that Mark Mooney in drafting the deed for Stonington wants to allow hunting. The members agreed that this would be okay.

WHIP PROGRAM:

R. Ball told the members that Mike Lynch has gotten in contact with him and they may be receiving some assistance from the WHIP Program.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: On a motion by D. Naiva, seconded by G. Wells-Kay, it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:55 p.m. (5-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Rollins

