

Conservation Commission

Wednesday August 3, 2005  
Corner Meeting House  
Belmont, New Hampshire

Members Present:	Ken Knowlton, D. Naiva, M. Lewandoski, B. Watterson
Members Absent:	W. Peterson(e), J. Peverly(u), N. Wederski(e)
Alternates Present:	M. McLetchie
Alternates Absent:	G. Wells-Kay(e), S. Colby(u)
Staff:	C. Daigle, D. Rollins

The chairman opened the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

**BOARD'S ACTION-MINUTES:**

**MOTION:** On a motion by M. Lewandoski, seconded by B. Watterson, it was voted to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2005 meeting as written. (4-1) M. McLetchie abstained.

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM:**

C. Daigle said that last year the Conservation Commission asked for \$10,000 a year for six years in the Capital Improvements Program. The Commission needed to decide if they were going to keep it at that or change that amount. It will stay that way unless they decide to change it. K. Knowlton said that they should be looking toward the future and to be able to buy developmental rights they will need more money. He said they cannot go up against the big developers with what they have. There is only so much time for them to be effective in preserving open space since they will only get the current use income for a limited time. B. Watterson said that they could put in a request for \$25,000. It will be up to the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee as to what they will get. They didn't get the \$10,000 last year. After much discussion the members decided that they should request at least \$25,000 for next year. M. Lewandoski thought that they may have a better chance of asking for \$25,000 for one year than asking for it for 6 years.

**MOTION:** B. Watterson made a motion that the Conservation Commission request \$25,000 in the Capital Improvements Program for this year only. M. Lewandoski seconded it.

K. Knowlton said that they need to build up enough money to purchase property. They need to be

able to offer the landowner more than the developer. He said he would hope that \$25,000 a year is not too much for the town to try to invest in open space. Maybe by putting in the \$25,000 for the next five years it would show how serious they are.

**MOTION:** M. McLetchie moved to amend the motion on the table to increase the Conservation Commission's request to \$50,000 a year for six years. D. Naiva seconded.

B. Watterson said that the Commission needs to maintain their credibility so they shouldn't increase their request from \$10,000 to \$50,000. Since they didn't get the \$10,000 last year it's still risky asking for the \$25,000. C. Daigle said they have to get the support of the Capital Improvements Committee, the Budget Committee and the Board of Selectmen. M. McLetchie withdrew his amended motion.

**MOTION:** On a motion by D. Naiva, seconded by M. McLetchie, the Conservation Commission voted to amend the original motion to request \$25,000 in the Capital Improvements Program for this year and \$25,000 for the next five years. (5-0)

**MOTION:** On a motion by M. Lewandoski, seconded by D. Naiva, the members voted on the original motion as amended to request \$25,000 in the Capital Improvements Program for this year and \$25,000 for the next five years. (5-0)

#### **MEETING WITH THE PLANNING BOARD:**

Chairman Knowlton said that since the Planning Board has a number of projects they are working on now he said he would leave it up to them if they need to meet with the Conservation Commission. C. Daigle said that if the members have something to pass on to the Planning Board they can come to the staff. D. Naiva said that it has been helpful that the members have been receiving the Planning Board minutes.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

The members discussed the appraisals that had been done for the two pieces of property that the Conservation Commission were interested in. It was suggested that although it would cost more they should have the appraisals done in more detail next time.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION:** On a motion by D. Naiva, seconded by M. McLetchie, it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:25p.m. (5-0)

Respectfully submitted,

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Denise Rollins

