

Atkinson Conservation Commission Meeting
Monday, January 6, 2003
7:30 P.M.
Atkinson Town Hall

1. Attendees:

Tim Dziechowski
Scott Kukshtel
Pete McVay
Paul Wainwright
Alice Ward

2. Guest Business & Plan Reviews

Steve Lewis is still interested in getting the Jane Jones land (abuts Slade parcel off Main Street) in conservation land. (Tax Map of 12/1, Map 17)

3. Internal Business

a. Secretary report

- Minutes are still pending from November and December. Pete will send out November through January for review.

b. Treasurer's report

- There hasn't been a new invoice for the NRCS Wetlands survey work. Paul will review the total so that we aren't overbudget at the end of job.
- Did not spend much money: \$3,355, and spent \$640.

c. Conservation Fund Status: no report

d. Conservation Commission Annual Report: needs to be in office by Jan 15th. Scott will send out for review and approval.

e. Received one copy of LCHIP Saving Special Places: Community Funding for Land Conservation.

4. Special Projects

a. Prime Wetlands Articles – Public Hearing to be held Tuesday, 01/07/03

b. Reminder: hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, January 15th, with the Planning Board, for the Wetlands Review of the Zoning Ordinance change for Prime Wetlands. The definition from the Atkinson Zoning Ordinance book is out of date. The hearing will review the following ordinance change proposal:

An amendment to the Atkinson Zoning Ordinance to establish a new definition describing "Prime Wetlands":

Existing definition P4 Prime Wetlands

P4 PRIME WETLANDS. Prime wetlands are water-retaining land areas designated by the New Hampshire Wetlands Board as having one or more of the following characteristics: (a) very-poorly drained soils and marshland, (b) water-dwelling plant or animal life which is endangered and/or diverse and/or native to the area, (c) food chain production which

sustains the area and its wildlife, (d) watershed significance, (e) historical, archaeological, geological and/or scientific significance, and/or (f) distinctive landscape. (Reference RSA 483-A:7.)

Replace with new P4 Prime Wetlands

P4 PRIME WETLANDS. Prime wetlands are wetlands of significant value that are designated as worthy of extra protection because of their uniqueness, fragility and or unspoiled character pursuant to RSA 482-A:15 and as codified in New Hampshire Wetlands Bureau Code of Administrative Rules, Chapter Wt 700.

An amendment to the Atkinson Zoning Ordinance, Article IV, Section 410 by adding a new subsection 410:10 Prime Wetlands, designating seven (7) areas in the Town of Atkinson as prime wetlands as authorized in RSA 482-A:15 and described in documents and maps filed by the Planning Board and Conservation Commission with the Town Clerk as required by RSA 675:3.

New subsection to read as follows:

410:10 Prime Wetlands. The following areas in the Town of Atkinson are designated as prime wetlands:

- Hall Farm Pond
 - 10+/- acre wetland located south of NH Rte. 111 and north of Hall Farm Road, primarily on Tax Map 16, Lot 9.
- Hog Hill Brook:
 - 17.5+/- acre wetland which extends southeast of Island Pond Road, located primarily on Tax Map 20, Lot 7 and extending onto Tax Map 16, Lot 64 and Tax Map 21, Lot 1.
- Stewart Farm Pond:
 - 21+/- acre wetland located due west of Stewart Farm Road and northeast of Village Drive, primarily on Tax Map 12, Lot 1.
- West Sawmill Swamp:
 - 121+/- acre wetland extending across the northern Atkinson border with Hampstead and located directly west of upper Maple Avenue, on Tax Map 18.
- East Sawmill Swamp:
 - 58+/- acre wetland located directly east of upper Maple Avenue, on Tax Map 19.
- Wright Farm Pond:
 - 46+/- acre wetland bordered by Sawmill Road, Summit Drive, Walker Road, Merrill Drive, Meeting Rock Drive, and Bittersweet Lane, primarily on Tax Map 13, Lot 96.
- Bryant Brook:
 - 69+/- acre wetland located on the southern border between Atkinson and Plaistow, primarily on Tax Map 10, Lot 7, and extending onto Tax Map 9, Lot 62-22 and Tax Map 5, Lot 48.

- c. Scott reviewed the section of the last Planning Board minutes on the Prime Wetland process and procedures.

5. Other Dredge and Fills / Site Walks / Complaints

- a. *Sawyer Avenue* has a garage within a wetland buffer that was built without any of the necessary permits. Scott and Carole walked the land. They saw no problem since it is low-grade wetland, but recommended punitive damages be levied for failure to get proper building permits.

6. Commission member task/responsibility reports

- a. *Conservation Fund warrant article*: no further news
- b. LCIP boundary line maintenance – Steve Walker from the state will meet with Conservation Board members at the Senior Center on Wednesday, January 15th, to walk the boundaries of the land.

7. Review of Correspondence

- a. Planning Board minutes and agenda– Action if needed (none)
- b. ZBA minutes and agenda – Action if needed (none: Scott reported on his meeting)

8. Other Business

- a. Snow removal: Pete noted it was being dumped by large trucks up on Industrial Way. Is this legal? Talk to Jim Kirsch.
- b. Tim mailed out link to Windham Trail system and found multiple sets of topology maps for the state. The URL for these maps, including historical surveys for Atkinson in 1893, 1935, and 1956 are found at <http://docs.unh.edu/>

9. Next meeting date
Feb 3rd, 7:30

10. Adjournment: 9:00

Respectfully Submitted:

Pete McVay
Acting Recorder