

Atkinson Conservation Commission Meeting
Monday, February 3, 2003
7:30 P.M.
Atkinson Town Hall

1. Attendees:

Tim Dziechowski
Ray Gordon
Carole Hall
Scott Kukshel
Pete McVay
Paul Wainwright
Alice Ward

2. Guest Business & Plan Reviews

None

3. Internal Business

a. Secretary report

- November, December, January minutes were read and approved as amended.

b. Treasurer's report

- NRCS invoice came in for expenses in December of \$500. Payment approved.
- Annual dues of \$253 for membership in the NHACC.

c. Conservation Fund Status: End of the year \$741,819.59 in the fund, an increase of \$13,344.42.

d. Conservation Commission Annual Report: Scott has completed it and it is in the town office for publication.

4. Special Projects

- a. One article concerning expanding the use of the Conservation Fund is in the Deliberative Session to be held this Saturday.
- b. Prime Wetlands zoning ordinances: At least one member of the Planning Board stated they would like to see "a full package" rather than the single Prime Wetlands survey, including setback ordinances and land use. Next year would be a single article concerning the wetlands ordinance, covering wetlands and the boundaries. Carole has contacted several persons on the local and state levels, and there are possible model ordinances available. Peter Spear of NRCS provided a map of towns that have recently done Prime Wetlands ordinances.
- c. Paul went to the Wetlands conference at Brentwood. He made contact with two speakers (Sandra Crystall) at the conference that would be willing to help in any wetland protection that comes up. May also send letters of invitation to landowners for a public discussion. The Board could also put something in the town Quarterly Newsletter for a session date.
- d. Discussion was made on what was meant by "in and adjacent" to wetlands by the state. The state makes a distinction between continuation (as in a deck) vs. a business or change that might influence the environment. Even though no dredge-

and-fill permit is issued, the state is still usually made cognizant of the changes through the notification procedure. There is still some question as to whether a state public hearing is needed to simply add a deck near a prime wetland.

- e. The Board will review plans for Prime Wetlands planning in their April meeting.

5. Other Dredge and Fills / Site Walks / Complaints

- a. Letter from Charles Kinney, of Kinney's Garage, concerning the Wetlands Ordinance. He was concerned that the proposed ordinance would be more bureaucracy and urged the Board to keep the conservation goal.
- b. Letter was received about a permit to prepare a temporary sandbag cofferdam to repair the dam at Bryant Woods.
- c. Notice read of a public hearing concerning an administrative fine for environmental damage to Mr. Johnson of Little Rob Lane.

6. Commission member task/responsibility reports

- a. *Conservation Fund warrant article*: no further news
- b. LCIP boundary line maintenance – Note from Steve Walker of Office of State Planning concerning the field visit, including his visit report.

7. Review of Correspondence

- a. Planning Board minutes and agenda– Action if needed (none)
- b. ZBA minutes and agenda – Several variances were requested near proposed prime wetland sites.
- c. RPC is putting together a set of GPS map sets that will be available. (Dave Wickliff, GIS specialist, at RPC for more information.) Pete will contact to see what the status is for Atkinson.

8. Other Business

- a. Scott showed a handbook *Conservations Options: A Guide for Landowners*, which is a small handbook for landowners considering putting land into a conservation trust. He proposed buying several copies to have for local landowners to borrow. Motion made and passed to buy 12 of these books.

9. Next meeting date

March 3rd, 7:30

10. Adjournment: 9:30.

Respectfully Submitted:

Pete McVay
Acting Recorder