

**Atkinson Conservation Commission Meeting**  
**Monday, August 4, 2003**  
**7:30 P.M.**  
**Atkinson Town Hall**

1. Call To Order. Attendees:

Tim Dziechowski	Pete McVay
Ray Gordon	Alice Ward
Scott Kukshel	Michelle Veasey
Paul Wainwright	Guest: Jeff Sahw
2. Guest Business & Plan Reviews  
Jeff Shaw attended to observe commission plans and introduce himself as an interested potential volunteer.
3. Internal Business
  - a. Secretary report
    - Review and approval of minutes. Deferred until September meeting.
  - b. Treasurer's report  
\$742,913 in account, \$45,000 in a CD  
Monthly expenditures:
4. Other Dredge and Fills / Site Walks / Complaints
  - a. Hovey Meadow Pond – beaver problem. A complaint was turned in on the flooding on Hovey Meadow Pond roads. Ted Stewart cleaned the culverts, which had been plugged by beavers. The solution is only temporary, and may appear on Maple Avenue also. Beavers are protected animals, so there is not much that can be done at this point.
5. Special Projects
  - a. ATVs on Town Lands: Tim and Pete reported on the general meeting at Hampstead with state warden for Rockingham County. New state regulations require OHRV riders to be accompanied by an adult if under 14 years of age, and safety equipment is required. Also, OHRV riders must have written permission of a landowner to cross private land. Unfortunately, the current law has a loophole that excludes public (town) lands. Town lands must be posted to enforce a ban. The problem continues with illegal OHRV access near Crown Hill. Michelle will investigate sign styles and costs for posting from Loral Press.
  - b. Town Lands & Trails Brochure Project
    - i. Grant Status: At least eight volunteers have come forward, based on the newsletter distribution. A report on progress is due by 30 Sept. Pete will write a draft report. Printing the newsletter cost \$340 for printing and \$393.36 for postage. It was moved and seconded and approved to pay the bill from Loral printing, and submit the bill against the grant funds.
    - ii. Volunteer Recruitment: Michelle has prepared a draft invitation to volunteers from the current list, and proposes 18 Sept as a workshop walk at the trails behind the Senior Center. Michelle and Pete are working on land survey sheets for volunteers, with an explanation of their use. A second workshop is also proposed for a weekend day.

- iii. Action Plan: Paul reported that Sandy Crystal's next Wetlands orientation will be 25 Sept. The subject will be case studies, zoning and what is meant by "adjacent" to wetlands. Since a newsletter will probably not be ready by that meeting, postcards will be used to inform citizens of the meeting. Michelle will investigate the cost of postcards and printing. The next subject will be zoning setbacks.
  - c. Wetlands Zoning Modifications: Scott is working on a draft that will be due in December.
  - d. Conservation Easements: Paul recommended, and the Commission approved without vote, to identify the 20 largest landowners in Atkinson in the September meeting, for mailing of the state booklet on the advantages of Conservation easements.
- 6. Review of Correspondence
  - a. Planning Board minutes and agenda– Action if needed (none)
  - b. ZBA minutes and agenda – Action if needed (none)
  - c. Vic Richards requested a Conservation Commission member meet on the special Storm Water Discharge planning meeting, to review town plans to abate and control storm water drainage systems.
  - d. The New Hampshire Division of Parks and Recreation has matching grant funds for purchase of recreational-use land within the town.
- 7. Other Business
  - a. Peter reported on a survey of computer topology mapping programs, and recommended TopoMap as the best potential program with the widest range of useful features for trail and conservation mapping. It was moved and seconded and approved to purchase a trial copy of the software, at a cost of approximately \$80.00, for use in trail mapping.
  - b. Scott showed a CD, *Achieving Smart Growth in New Hampshire*, available as CD and also on the Office of State Planning website.
  - c. Tim mowed the Common Center area and will mow the Turkey Field next.
  - d. Members were reminded that email can only be used to manage tasks that have been approved at the monthly meeting. Email cannot be used to approve or propose actions, since these must be done in a public meeting.
- 8. Next meeting date: 8 September at 7:30. However, if it appears that a quorum cannot be reached, the date may be changed by polling members.
- 9. Adjournment at 9:20.