

Minutes, Atkinson Conservation Commission
July 10, 2007
Atkinson Town Hall

Call To Order by Chairman Tim Dziechowski at 7:37

Attending:

Randy Bishop
Tim Dziechowski
Dan Kimball
Scott Kukshel
Pete McVay
Michelle Veasey

Guest Business and Plan Reviews:

Ted Stewart had three items on the agenda.

- **dumping on Lakeside Drive conservation land.** There was a report that fill had been dumped on the conservation land by a septic contractor. Ted had inspected the area: boulders and some fill had been dumped on the conservation area. Ted had contacted the contractor but nothing was heard. Ted recommended leaving the boulders where they were, because they provided a “natural barrier” to further dumping, preventing vehicles and others from dumping on the land.
- **Sawyer land gates, locks, and signs.** Ted put a gate on the Forest Road entrance as a large deterrent to illegal motorized entrance. He will add chains and locks. On the 4H land side, there is a gate and posts that do not adequately block entrance, and there are ruts showing that motorized vehicles are trespassing. There also have been reports that these vehicles (ATVs) are coming out onto Sawyer Avenue at high speed, posing risk of serious injury. Ted has some material to provide better fencing for that entrance. Ted would also like to post “no-motorized vehicle access” signs. It was noted that damage is highest during wet periods in the spring and fall, not when the ground is frozen. The gates should be closed during spring through fall, and opened for access during the winter. IT was noted that the Marshall Trail on Boulder Cove Road is also a problem, with ATVs driving over the area. The Stickney land off the end of Lake Side drive has an old “obstacle” trail that is now in disuse and a lot of dumping has been done in some areas.
- **Stewart Farm development rights.** Ted sought advice and recommendations for the potential sale of conservation rights and property for his 16-acre family lot at tax map 17, lot 7. He brought a soil and topology map of the property, and according to the survey on the map, 12 condominiums could be put on the land. There was much discussion of possibilities and the steps necessary to consider a sale. In addition to the possibility of sale to the Conservation Commission, several Commission members will also investigate joint ownership and title with SPNHF and the Department of the Interior, the Rockingham Planning Commission, and LCHIP. Ted mentioned that the Commission should do a site walk of the property.

Internal Business

Treasurer’s report: Tim recused himself as chairman and Scott Kukshel was elected temporary chairman by the commission. Scott presented an invoice dated July 10th, from Tim’s Tractor for mowing the Sumner Field and the Bonin field, at \$300 each for a total of \$600. Pete moved that the \$600 bill for mowing be paid out of the care of grounds budget. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Scott stepped down and Tim resumed duties as chairman. Tim noted that there were still some outstanding reimbursement due that had not yet cleared the town hall office.

Secretary report: A motion was made to approve the June minutes as amended. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Other: The mailbox on the Stewart land was completely destroyed and the mailbox on the Marshall and Sawyer lot are damaged but usable. Randy will investigate making a mailbox from well casing to make "indestructible" mail boxes for the Conservation lands.

Other Dredge and Fills / Site Walks / Complaints

2007-01397 Waselchuck, 12 Chase Island Road, Map 22 Lot 36, construction of wall and boat ramp without permit. No action.

2004-02460 Mildred Reynolds, 23 Chase Island Road, construction of seawall without permit. No action.

Review of Correspondence

Planning Board Agenda Items: There was considerable discussion about a waiver request for a driving range on Map 1 lot 12, presented by Joshua Manning, Fire Chief Mike Murphy objected to the plan, stating there was no enough turning radius for a fire truck A waiver was granted. The Master Plan was also discussed. Eric Seltzer from Rockingham Planning Commission visited to discuss the Community Planning Assessment Template. Upcoming Planning Board agenda items will be the Mullet Family plan to build and the Library Trustees formal application for new library building approval.

Zoning Board Agenda items: Mike Saviano was granted a waiver for garage construction. Upcoming ZBA agenda items include a special construction exception for Foley (Map 22, Lot 12).

Other Business

Repair of "DR cutter" string mower: Tim will get it from Scott and take it to the repair shop.

The Rockingham Planning Commission sent a letter advertising matching grant money available for planning purposes. The commission reviewed the grant requirements and concluded there is no conservation project that meets the criteria for a grant.

Michelle and Steve Walker from the state did a site survey on June 26th of lots on Map 5, lots 65 and 66 near Robie lane. They could not locate all of the site markers, and some had been pounded into the ground and were not visible. Another site walk is needed to locate the missing markers, but this will wait until fall when they will be more visible.

The next meeting of the Commission will be Monday, August 6th, at 7:00.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Pete McVay