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Minutes, Atkinson Conservation Commission December 7, 2009 Atkinson Town Hall

Call To Order by Chairman Tim Dziechowski at 7:37.

Attending:

Tim Dziechowski
Dan Kimball
Denise Legault
Pete McVay
Michelle Veasey
Paul Wainwright

Guest Business and Plan Reviews:

David Miller, scout came with Scoutmasters Mark Miller (his father) and Keith Miller for a scout project on the Sawyer land. The proposal is to improve the Sawyer trail system in a selected section of the Sawyer trails. The initial proposal is for four bog bridges plus trail areas between the bridges. Forest management is to be done during the winter while the ground is frozen, and this could impact the proposal by changing the water flow and the trails. It was suggested during discussion that David be introduced to Bob Spoerl of Trailwrights, who did a survey with the Commission during the fall. Pete will send email to connect Bob with David and the scoutmasters for consultation. Tim will provide Pete with what information he has on DRED manuals for trail and bridge design. David will present a revised proposal at the January Conservation meeting.

Peter Ashford request for a wetlands setback variance for 12x12 shed at 5 Leroy Ave, Map 13 Lot 80. A motion was made to that the Commission send a letter to the ZBA recommending approval of the proposal. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Internal Business

Membership renewals, Dan, Denise, renewed for 3 years, Michelle and Paul, renewed for 1 year.

Treasurer's report - end of 2009 expenses: there are a number of pending bills for submission before years' end: surveying and monuments on west side of Map 20 Lot 35, mowing, gravel area at Sawyer Forest Road entrance, metal detector for boundary detection, LGC books (Hard Road To Travel, others?), sign materials, forestry report, conferences (Saving Special Places receipts). A motion was made to authorize Dan Kimball to expend \$200 for sign materials. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. A motion was made to pay the LaValle bill for maintenance monument replacement (markers and stanchions) on the canoe launch for \$190. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Other budget discussions included considering adding more signs and fence in the spring. (\$190). The Stickney Land may need a survey, but at the moment there are questions about the boundary. Sumner's office is doing a title search. There also is a pending expense for gravel on Sawyer Road access. Money is still available to purchase plantings and wetlands books from the UNH Cooperative Education services, for placement in the library and the town office. Dan has a list of seedlings available from state forest and should be ordered soon. Pete must send in the reimbursement request for the Saving Special Places NHACC conference. Other projects are purchase of a metal detector to find boundary markers and to redo the trail maps with the improved Google and GRANIT information available.

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Secretary report – A motion made to approve the July minutes as amended. The motion was seconded and passed with two abstentions. A motion was made to approve the November minutes as amended. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. The October 19th minutes were deferred for a review of the quoted RSAs and will be reviewed at the January meeting.

Other Dredge and Fills / Site Walks / Complaints

- Tim reported several **Paintball forts** on Caroline Orr conservation land due west of field, also **extensive fireworks debris** in field. This raises the issue of patrolling the conservation lands on July 4th. The other question is how to get rid of the paintball debris in a non-hazardous manner. Possibly get a steward for the land.
- **Southeast passage site walk** with Tracie Hines of Essex County Greenbelt Association, Wednesday 11/4, 10 AM. Tracie and their acquisitions committee will be walking the site again on 12/9 in the morning. Right of way into the land exists on the Parsonage Hill development.
- **Unpermitted wetlands fill** 21 Amberwood Drive, file complaint
- **Widowmaker tree** on conservation land next to 459 East Road, Hampstead, cut down, need bill from contractor. Ted Stewart incorporated the cost into his budget, since the conservation work was only 30 minutes of a full day of tree maintenance completed for the town.
- **Widowmaker trees on conservation easement** next to Paul Antkowiak, 21 Woodlawn Ave, Sumner says we are not liable, need to notify Brian Boyle that he is.

Review of Correspondence

Planning Board Agenda Items:

- **CTAP grant for master plan** natural resources inventory, Michelle
- **Propose zoning change** to 410:8(b) for wetlands buffer, shot down.
- **Small wind turbine zoning** ordinance scheduled for public hearing
- Add East and West Sawmill Swamp and Hovey Meadow Wetland to **prime wetlands**, scheduled for public hearing.
- **Three petition warrant articles:**
 - Meter public utility water pipeline flow in and out of Atkinson
 - Change prime wetlands setback from 100' to 150'
 - Make East, West Sawmill Swamp, Wright Farm Pond prime wetlands
- **Gilles Gagnon**, application to expand on Industrial Drive withdrawn

Zoning Board Agenda items:

- **Zedalis application for variance** for construction in prime wetlands buffer zone 64' from edge of wetlands, Map 10 Lot 5, East Road, continued to Dec. 9 pending DES decision on whether to take jurisdiction.
- **Osborn, Map 22 Lot 47, 8 Valcat Lane**, appeal for variance to variance to allow keeping bunkhouse, told no, continued to Dec. 9
- **Shawn Meuse for Robert Allen**, Map 16 Lot 32, 9 Emery Drive, variance to keep concrete slab under fabric structure 12' from wetlands, the ZBA decided the fabric structure qualified as a garage, continued to 12/9.
- **Peter Ashford**, variance (see guest business above).

Other Business

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- 2009 Prime Wetlands now fully digitized at DES
- Sumner doing title search on Map 20 Lot 13-1, estimates for boundary survey and plot plan came in at ~5K, deferred pending title search and discussion with commission and selectmen.
- Presentation of Sawyer Forestry Report and contract for winter work deferred to workshop meeting 12/14/09.
- Claire Hamilton, gift of Blunts Pond lot, offer withdrawn.

The next meeting is a workshop meeting on Monday, December 14th, at 7:30 P.M.

The next regular meeting of the Commission will be Monday, January 4th 2010, at 7:30.

The meeting adjourned at 9:51.

Respectfully submitted,

Pete McVay