

#### **PO Box 120**

## Windham, New Hampshire 03087

(603) 432-3806 / Fax (603) 432-7362 www.WindhamNewHampshire.com

Conservation Commission

DRAFT Minutes

April 19, 2012

#### **Members:**

Dr. James Finn, Chairman

Mr. Wayne Morris, Vice-Chairman

Mr. Brian Dell'Orfano (Excused)

Mr. Dennis Senibaldi, Member (Excused)

Ms. Pamela Skinner, Member

Ms. Lisa Ferrisi, Member

Mr. Bernie Rouillard, Alternate

#### **Attendance and Seat Alternate**

The Chairman appointed Mr. Rouillard to replace Mr. Senibaldi for the meeting.

### **Public Hearing: Regarding Moeckel Pond**

A discussion occurred regarding holding the public hearing on this date (April 19, 2012) or postponing the hearing until the next meeting because of concerns regarding posting of notice. After some discussion the Commission decided to proceed with the public hearing at this meeting. Mr. Rouillard motioned to proceed with the public hearing and Ms. Skinner seconded the motion. Mr. Morris abstained. Motion passed 4-0.

A public hearing was held regarding the use of Conservation funds to purchase a portion of Lot 25-D-251, lot 25-C-251 and lot 25-C-255 and a portion of lot 25-C-250; approximately 41 acres in size. These properties encompass Moeckel Pond, the island in Moeckel pond and an access lot contiguous to the pond. The purchase price is \$150,000.

Comment was made regarding confusion over what the commission was purchasing regarding the initial public notice. Mr. Finn responded that this could be considered an amended public notice that could be posted with 24 hour notice.

The presentation on Moeckel Pond was given by Ms. Fallon and Mr. Young representing "Friends of Moeckel Pond." Presentation included a value statement of why this adds value to the town and discussed topics including restoration, parcels to be purchased, fire security, local history, prime wildlife habitat according to state rankings, recreation and other ecosystem services that could be provided by restoring the pond.

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It was discussed that the pond will be a public resource for town residents and the Conservation Commission will provide access and protection of the site.

It was also reinforced that the town will not be responsible for the existing dam. The plan for the dam is that it will have its own parcel and the "Moeckel Pond Village District" will pay for the maintenance of the dam.

Supporting partners for this plan include the Pelham, New Hampshire Conservation Commission regarding contiguous lands connecting the two towns and the NHDES Dam and Wildlife Bureaus.

Question was asked about who will own the land surrounding the dam. Mr. Finn noted that the land will be subdivided out but that it would originally be owned by Friends of Moeckel Pond and then the Village District. Mr. Young mentioned that the east side access lot will be owned by the Conservation Commission. Friends of Moeckel Pond will buy the dam which will eventually be owned by the Village District. There is also a lot on the west side of the dam with an existing structure that will be sold to an individual as a separate lot.

Mr. Maynard added that there will be a separate map and lot number for the dam. Mr. Rouillard said that the Conservation Commission will not own the land, the Town of Windham will own it but the Commission will be using Conservation Commission funds to purchase the property.

Mr. Gagnon from the Pelham Conservation Commission expressed support and presented maps of conservation lands in Pelham and their long-term plan to connect land from Route 111a to Deer Leap in Windham.

Question was raised regarding types of recreational activities that will be allowed on the pond once it is restored and who will monitor that. Mr. Finn responded that passive recreation would be allowed such as fishing, kayaking, canoeing and swimming. The area will be monitored the same way as it is with all other conservation areas.

Question was raised about water depth of the pond once the dam is repaired. Mr. Young responded and said that depth ranges from 6-10 inches to a couple a feet with deeper areas by the dam. The plan will be to hopefully to keep it at 146.6ft above sea level.

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Question was asked if there could be another run through of who owns which parcels by looking at the tax map. Mr. Young explained the ownership of the surrounding parcels of the Village District and noted that the Village District will pay taxes that will go to dam repair. Mr. Maynard added that there are 4 parcels currently in transfer:

- 1. To be sold to CC:
  - 25-C-251 (pond)
  - 25-D-251 (access)
  - 25-C-255 (the island ~1 acre)
- 2. 25-C-250 Encompasses the dam currently but the dam will be separated from this parcel to eliminate the Town of Windham's liability.

Mr. Rouillard motioned that the Conservation Commission expend \$150,000 purchase and sale agreement. Ms. Skinner seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

#### **Review/Comment on NHDES Dredge & Fill Applications**

- 17 Prescott Road (22-L-200) Standard Dredge & Fill
  - Suggested the use of pervious pavers / pavement on path to docks

#### Review/Comment on NHDOT I-93 Wetland Impacts

• Exit 3 Southbound Mainline

No comments.

#### **Board of Selectmen Request for Comments-NHDOT Land Sale**

The Commission has no interest in this parcel.

### **Review and Approve Meeting Minutes**

- February 9, 2012 ---- Approved
- March 8, 2012
- March 22, 2012 ---- Approved

#### **Review Mail/Correspondents**

#### Non-Public Session RSA 91-A:3(d)



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Mr. Morris motioned to enter into non-public. Mr. Roulliard seconded and motion passed 5-0.

The next meeting of the Conservation Commission is scheduled for **April 26, 2012** at 7:30 PM in the Community Development Office.

These minutes are in draft form and are respectfully submitted for approval by Lisa Ferrisi