



***Town of Weare
Conservation Commission***

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Conservation Commission

Andrew Fulton, Chairman
Stephen Najjar, Vice Chair
George Malette
Michael Dahlberg, Secretary
Wendy Stevens

MINUTES September 12, 2012

Members Present: Andy Fulton, Steve Najjar, George Malette, Mike Dahlberg, Wendy Stevens

Guests: Jerry Gagne, P.E. of Meridian Land Services, Inc. Jeremy Turner, Forester or Meadowsend Timberlands

Open Meeting: 7:11 p.m.

Jeremy Turner, Forester Meadowsend Timberlands

Jeremy Turner appeared before the WCC to report on the forestry work accomplished so far during 2012 and the work yet to be accomplished. Jeremy spoke about the harvest to be done at the Felch Farm Town Forest this fall and early winter as well as the work at Bartlett Brook.

Andy asked Jeremy about the timing for the planned forestry work around Ferrin Pond. Jeremy stated that the Ferrin Pond work was planned for 2014 and will be carried out per the forestry management plan on file.

Andy asked Jeremy about the habitat work at the Eastman Conservation Area. Jeremy said that the mowing was going to occur in the near future. Steve said that we could talk with John C. Brown and Sons regarding the mowing on the front portion that needs to be done again.

Steve made a motion to expend up to \$5,000 from the Conservation Fund for the mowing (habitat work) at the Eastman Conservation Area including Jeremy's hourly rate to coordinate the effort. George seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Steve then made a motion to expend up to \$500 from the Conservation Fund for brush mowing at the Eastman Conservation Area. George seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Jeremy then spoke of the Jewett Lots in the Ferrin Pond area and the presence of a series of buildings on the property. Jeremy recommends that they be torn down in the future and possibly coordinating that work when the logging operation occurs.

George asked Jeremy about a trails program and whether he would be willing to work up an estimate to assist in the location of trails. Jeremy asked if the trails would be recreational or interpretive. A discussion was had about various aspects of trails and trail management.

Mountain Road Stream Crossings

Jerry Gagne, P.E., President of Meridian Land Services appeared before the WCC to present the bid sheet showing the results of the bids opened on September 10, 2012. 5 contractors submitted bids.

Jerry informed the WCC that after site visits by several contractors it was noted that several trees in the area of the proposed crossing will have to be removed in order to facilitate the crane work associated with the construction. Andy spoke of his concerns regarding the tree removal, aesthetics etc. that need to be considered in the pre-construction phase of the project.

Andy then asked Jerry about the schedule of construction. Jerry stated that as a part of the contract the contractor has to prepare and present a construction schedule once the contract has been awarded.

A review of the bid sheet with the costs was reviewed. Steve then made a motion to accept the bid of D & S Excavating of Weare in the amount of \$80,900 out of the Conservation Fund. George seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Andy then spoke of the years long process to get to this point.

Steve made a motion to authorize Andy to sign the contract. George seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

WCC Minutes

August 8, 2012 Minutes were discussed. George made a motion to approve the minutes of August 8, 2012 with the minor corrections noted. Steve seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Planning Board Item(s)

A plan for a Lot Line Adjustment at 402 Old Francestown Road was reviewed and noted without comment.

George brought the on going effort by the Planning Board to amend the zoning classifications in town. It was discussed whether easements should be added to zoning maps for planning purposes. The Commission supported the notion. George will pass along the comments to the Planning Board.

DES Items

Horace Lake Beach Replenishment: The Town of Weare has received a letter from DES regarding the work being done within the SWQPA at Horace Lake. This item has been noted by the WCC without comment.

Purrington Conservation Easement Quaker Street

Brian Hotz of SPNHF has submitted copies of the Conservation Easement for the WCC to review. Steve noted some apparent inconsistencies in the language regarding public access on page 6 item K and on page 10 item D. Steve stated that he feels the language should be consistent. Andy will e-mail Brian with the concerns.

Potential Conservation Projects

Discussion included Lisa Wetherbee land on Quaker Street, 85 Acres near Hemlock Drive, and two parcels on Thorndike Street. Andy will e-mail other agencies to see what they know of these potential projects. Mike said he would contact the land owner of the Thorndike Street property.

Purrington C.E., Quaker Street

The Trustees of the Trust Fund have authorized the expenditure of \$32,000 towards the Purrington Conservation Easement and are asking the WCC to run the money through the Conservation Fund because the Trustees of the Trust Fund cannot directly expend funds. The funds must come from a Town entity and be expended for a Town use.

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A discussion was then had about a public hearing and meeting notices etc. It was considered whether the Trustees of the Trust Fund should discuss this with the WCC before moving forward with this request. It was decided that Andy would ask Naomi to prepare a legal notice and to post for October meeting regarding the expenditure of \$47K from the Conservation Fund towards the purchase of a conservation easement on the Purrington Farm.

Other Items

Wendy volunteered to update the WCC website. This work would include updating information on various Town properties. A discussion was had about access to the website in order for Wendy to accomplish her work. Wendy will speak with Merry Rice to coordinate her work.

Wendy has volunteered to become a full member of the commission after having been an alternate for nearly two years.

Motion to Adjourn

Steve made the motion to adjourn at 9:45 p.m. George seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael R. Dahlberg, Secretary

(Amended, Andrew C. Fulton, Chair)