

# Jaffrey Conservation Commission

## Minutes

**January 27, 2010**

In Attendance: William Graf, Co-Chair

James Bearce, Co-Chair

Nora Barton Bryant

John O. Field

Carolyn Garretson

Patricia Weiner

Kathy Batchelder, Selectman's Representative

Brenda Bhatti, Guest

Absent: Ron Rogstead, Alternate

I. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Pat Weiner was appointed as scribe. The minutes of December 2, 2009 were approved with small corrections.

II. Brenda Bhatti was welcomed as a guest.

III. Correspondence

A. A notice was received from DES acknowledging receipt of a Shoreland Permit application from Peter Dublin in proper format.

B. BG has a copy of the Jaffrey Capital Improvement Plan 2009 - 2014.

C. Notice of New Hampshire Lakes Association grants were received. BG mailed this information to the two lake associations in Jaffrey. The grants could help the associations obtain additional equipment to assist with exotic weed control.

D. The Southwest Region Planning Commission held a meeting for The Contoocook - North Branch River Management on January 25, 2010. No additional information was received regarding a new Jaffrey representative. Joanne Carr had advised she would recommend that the Selectboard appoint a new representative.

E. JOF's letter of resignation was read. His resignation will be effective the date of Town Meeting. All present agreed that JOF's resignation will be a large loss to the Commission. JOF was thanked for his invaluable

assistance and leadership.

#### IV. Treasurer's Report

The unallocated balance at the end of December was \$1080.27.

JOF advised that the correct reimbursement still due the Commission from the Gordon Fund is \$1002.50. The report was accepted with corrections and with thanks to CG.

#### V. Priority Items

A. KB clarified that the terms of Commission appointees end at the Town Meeting three years after appointment regardless of the date of that appointment.

B. Update on the Open Space Committee - JOF advised that an ad hoc committee was formed to fine tune the format of the Open space Committee as per one Selectperson's request. Once this is done, the Open Space committee should be approved by the Select Board. BG advised that Mark Kresge has agreed to chair the ad hoc committee. Clarification is necessary re: the ad hoc committee to assure that it involves determining the format of the Open Space Committee before involving the Open Space Plan itself. The next meeting of the ad hoc committee is 2/3/10.

C. Annual Report - JOF has completed this task with the Commission's thanks.

D. Town Warrant - Mike Hartman is in the process of placing empowerment in the hands of the Select Persons to authorize payment to LACRF.

JOH clarified that the Commission's request for the Town to raise the annual appropriation to the Conservation Commission from \$200 to \$500 is not a warrant item but rather a Town budget item.

E. Receipt of Gordon Fund Interest - \$2898.51. JOF suggested that these funds be used to assist the Town with the balance, if any, of payments due the Monadnock Conservancy (BG will discuss this with Mike Hartman), project work in Children's Woods, and for funds owed the Conservation Commission. BG suggested that Con Com reimburse itself first for funds paid towards the Children's Woods survey since funds are so low. BB asked that the Commission remember that the Gordon Fund monies are supposed to be used to get children involved in Children's Woods.

#### VI. Reports

A. Membership - KB made the following suggestions:

1. Place request to fill openings on the Town website
2. Contact certain people who might have a personal interest such as those who have easements on their property, developers, another realtor, hunters, etc....in order to have different perspectives on how to conserve Jaffrey's natural resources.
3. Set up an information desk at Town meeting requesting applicants. BG suggested that we invite people to a meeting and hold a short reception before the meeting. Suggestions were made to hold a social at the Civic Center, Silver ranch, the Town offices or Conant H.S. NB advised that Josh Penick has offered to produce a brochure about the Conservation commission within the next few weeks. NB suggested that it include the annual report and the goals of Con Com. KB will create a format for us if information is submitted to her by this Friday 1/29.

B. Cheshire Pond Conservation Area - JB had nothing new to report. JOH reminded the commission of

pamphlets needed for Children's Woods and Cheshire pond Conservation Area with trails shown. It was felt that the Commission pamphlet mentioned above could include that information.

## VII. Updates and Information

A. BG and PW reviewed the Planning Board meeting they had attended on 1/12/10. The Wetlands issue may require monitoring to determine what if any role the Conservation committee should play in the Miken Ingalls Road development. Such things as applications for special exceptions should be followed closely. Discussion followed regarding possible sources of guidance to determine exactly where and what kind of wetlands exist in the area.

B. The Ingles Farm - Josh Penick, the owner of the Ingles Farm, will extend an invitation to the Conservation commission to observe his miles of bird trails and his food operation.

C. Reminder was given that the Saving Special Places Conference will be held Saturday, April 10, 2010.

## VII. Other Business

A. PW asked where the easement agreements are kept. JOH advised that they should be filed with Joanne Carr. NB advised that they should also be included in the property files in Erline Lemire's office.

B. JOF mentioned that lots of Con Com files and papers are currently at his house and at Brenda Bhatti's house. He has pruned through some of his files and feels that all working file should be relocated to the Town offices. He has spoken to Erline regarding this. JOH will continue to thin out the files in order to create a working file to place in the Town office. All agreed that this must be done.

VIII. The next regularly scheduled meeting will take place Wednesday, February 24, 2010 at 7PM Town office.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Weiner, Scribe