

**TOWN OF CHESTERFIELD  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 22, 2013**

Present: Jeff Newcomer, Chairman; Lynne Borofsky, Tom Duston, Pam Walton, Steve Hardy (arrived at 7:32 PM), Jon McKeon, Selectboard Representative (arrived at 7:42 PM).

**1). Mail –**

- A). DES Drinking Water Source Protection Program brochure
- B). There is a Drinking Water Source Protection Conference on May 1<sup>st</sup> 8:30 AM to 4 PM at the Grappone Conference Center in Concord.

2). Tom moved to approve the March 25<sup>th</sup> minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Lynne and passed unanimously. Jon will ask the LGC about volunteers for the adopt a trail program.

**3). Permits –**

- A). Mike Lacroix – 182 Mountain Road, Bank Restabilization & Approve Boat Ramp. CT Valley Environmental Services.
- B). Charles Donahue Revocable Trust of 1988 has been labeled an area of potential archaeology sensitivity. Applications are reviewed by DES for archaeological significance. Tom reported that the Commission reviewed the site and sent a letter shortly after the last meeting. There is a proposed retention pond and a culvert.
- C). Douglas & Mary Pleasonton Driveway Permit on Route 63 .11 miles south of Twin Brook Road.

**4). Complaints –** Richard Richter on Streeter Hill Road was present to discuss some of the changes made by bikers in Friedsam Forest. He put railings on the bridge and tarpaper on the bridge. He did not cut down the arch way. Ruth stated that she has observed a black truck with a bike rack on it in the parking lot on Route 63. The Commission will take a look at the bicycle issue at the next meeting.

**5). Grants, Events –** Lynne needs to contact the forest society about funds for a kiosk. The Commission will look at trails in Pisgah this summer for the Greenway. Lynne is going to buy 5 black mailboxes for trail maps. They will be decorated by art classes in school.

**6). Spofford Lake Report –**

- A). Pam reported that Moosewood Ecological has just submitted a bill for \$2,900. The Association and the Commission has paid ½. The mapping section is nearly complete.
- B). The ice is out of the Lake and all but one board has been put in the dam.
- C). Pam moved to donate \$5,000 from the Conservation Fund to the Spofford Lake Association for the Lake Host Program. The motion was seconded by Jeff and

passed unanimously. The cost of the program in 2012 is \$13,595. Pam may return for more funds later. The Association has not received as large a grant this year that it normally does.

**7). Website** – Jeff did a powerpoint presentation of the trial for the new website. The trails were divided up among the members for content. The next meeting of the website subcommittee will be May 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM.

**8). Tools** – Steve will buy a chainsaw, metal dirt rakes and florian loppers within the next week.

**9). Trail Development & Land Projects** –

A). Tom reported that he had lots of adopters for Friedsam:

Waltons :Ancient Oaks

Connie LaFleur: The Cemetery

Starbucks: Sargent Trail

B). John Herrick will be working on the Hood property with all the trees down and he will be making a view on the Colony Property in Keene.

C). Tom moved to have the authority to expend \$1,000 from the Conservation Fund to have steel posts installed on either side of the gates. The motion was seconded by Pam Walton and passed by majority.

**10).Selectmen** –

A). Jon reported that the Selectboard is reviewing their website also.

B). The Economic Development Committee is meeting

C). The Parks & Rec Committee is looking for a few volunteers to research other opportunities that can be offered to our youth.

**11). Public Comment** – Jeff Scott reported that there would be pressure on the Commission to allow biking in Friedsam. A discussion ensued on enforcement and the type of erosion & damage that is caused by the single track travel.

B). Ruth wants the minutes to reflect that there is a lack of transparency in the CCC budget. She thinks the expenditures from the Conservation Fund should appear in the Town Warrant, particularly the donation to the SLA for the milfoil prevention and the \$1,000 just voted on for steel posts. The land use change tax penalty goes into the Fund. The Fund balance is reported annually in the Town Report.

C). There was discussion over the type of properties that should be preserved. Ruth stated that Theresa Chase held property on the CT River at the mouth of the Catsbane Brook. She sold the property for \$55,000. There is now a house on it. John Caveney stated the Commission contributed \$13,000 to \$14,000 for legal costs for the Pat Haley easement. He stated that this was 15 acres in the rural agricultural zone at the end of the road. What was the threat from development to the property? Tom said he would look at the details for the easement and present them at the next meeting. The Commission was prepared to raise money for the Charlie Donahue property and the Selectboard asked the Commission not to pursue the project.

**12). Adjournment** – The next meeting will be June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Pam will be the Chair. The following meeting will be August 26th. The meeting adjourned at 9:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy LaFontaine  
Secretary

Approved:

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Jeff Newcomer

Date: \_\_\_\_\_