

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

January 12, 2004

**Final Minutes of Public Hearing**

**Present:** Chairperson Paul Quinn; members Roger Hatt, Bruce Kantner, John Kieley, Vince Mamone & David Repak; alternate member Charlene Eddy; junior member Eric Foley.

**Absent:** Mike Connolly & Linda Homer

Paul Quinn called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

**Minutes** – December 15, 2003

**MOTION:** John moved, Dave seconded, a motion to approve the 12/15/03 minutes as written. All were in favor.

**Annual Report:** Paul said that he will write the Con Com report that will go in the Town Annual Report.

**Newsletter Article:** Paul apologized to board members for the tone and certain choices of words used in the newsletter article that he wrote. He also apologized for a factual error about the subdivisions on Old Peterborough Road – there are 2 subdivisions, not 3. He also apologized to anyone on the board who may not feel that 100% of the current use tax funding is the way to go. He said that he realized after it was submitted that not everyone on the Con Com necessarily agrees with this funding, and it looked like he was speaking for the Con Com, not just himself. Charlene said that she wished Paul had announced the January 26<sup>th</sup> meeting that will include Dick Ober as a guest. Vince said that the Con Com meets the second and fourth Mondays, not alternating Mondays.

**Open Space Working Discussion:** John presented the most recent Temple Land Prioritization chart which includes 38 properties in total and 16 properties that have been prioritized and given value numbers. Connie Kieley suggested that in addition to the name/owner of the properties, the map and lot numbers should be added as well as the street addresses. Roger said that the map that he is waiting for from SWRPC will have the map and lot numbers for each lot. There was discussion about where to go from here with the prioritization list. It was decided that **Paul will speak with the property owner of the land that abuts the Weston land, about the possibility of trails being created that would extend from the Weston land. For public presentation, John will make a sample land prioritization chart using the Weston land and the Old Peterborough Road land.**

Honey Hastings brought an article about the Francetown Con Com and a book put out by the NH Bar Asso. about conservation. She loaned it to Paul and said that she would like to have it back in a month.

Discussion about the Dick Ober presentation on January 26<sup>th</sup>. It was decided that Dick will focus his talk on how to take land preservation to the next step after identifying properties needing preservation. **John will compose a 2 paragraph notice about Dick Ober's presentation and will email it to CC members. Vince will post it and Paul will make it into a press release for the Transcript & Ledger. Vince will send individual invitations to all Planning Board members. Each Con Com member will contact 10 – 12**

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**people in their neighborhood including the property owners on the land prioritization chart.**

**Heat in Friendship Hall:** Paul will contact Sandy Benotti regarding how to turn on the heater in the hall.

**Planning Board Forum:** Tedd Petro said that there will be a Planning Board Forum on Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>. The Planning Board wanted the Con Com to be aware of this meeting and attend if possible.

**Dijit Taylor Presentation:** Will be held February 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Working Budget:** Bruce reported that at a Budget Committee hearing held on January 8<sup>th</sup>, the Budget Committee had only one line item for the Con Com, funds for the recording secretary. Budget Committee members asked why other items were not budgeted for the Con Com from town funds. Currently, everything the Con Com pays for comes from the land use change taxes. The Budget Committee seemed to feel that some things, like postage, office supplies, dues & subscriptions, training & advertising etc. should come from the town budget as they do for the other boards and commissions in town. If this were so then all Con Com funds from current use change taxes would go toward land protection/preservation. There was a long discussion about this. It was decided that Vince would attend the Budget Advisory Committee meeting on Wednesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, show them the Con Com working budget, and leave it to the BAC to decide whether or not to incorporate any of the Con Com working budget into the town budget, with the understanding that the BAC may or may not decide to add additional line items into the town budget for the Con Com.

**Working with the Planning Board:** Bruce reported that the Planning Board, at its last meeting,, expressed a willingness to work more closely with the Con Com. CC will discuss this further.

**End of Year Review, New Year Preview: Will discuss at 2/9/04 meeting.**

**Mailbag:** Adopt-a-Highway contract was received. CC agreed to renew the contract. John said that he met with biologist Ted Walski, with NH Fish & Game, who told John about a wildlife habitat improvement program that will fund improvements up to \$2,000/year for properties 25 acres or more in size. John will set up a meeting with him and any Con Com members that would like to attend.

The meeting was adjourned at 10 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Diane Nilsson