

Town of Temple, NH
Conservation Commission
Minutes of Public Meeting, May 22, 2006

Attendees: Lincoln Geiger, Honey Hastings, John Kieley, Dave Repak, and Eric Foley. Visitors: Connie Kieley.

Minutes of May 8th meeting approved.

Secretary's Report: John Kieley presented a letter from Southwest Region Planning Commission with draft maps entitled "Development Constraints." The letter requested that we review the map and provide clearly written comments and requests for revisions. It was determined that we need to add the following data to the map: new lots, new houses, conserved areas, town/state land, and trails. *John will check with Debbie to obtain data on new subdivisions that have recently been approved. He will also call Jeff Porter of SWRPC to see how they want the additional data to be submitted.*

NRI Update: The Planning Board will hold a hearing on June 7th to discuss accepting the NRI for incorporation into the Master Plan. *All CC members are encouraged to attend.*

Pratt Pond: Continuing review by the D&F Committee. *Will report on status at next meeting.*

Conservation Plan: A discussion on the information in Chapter VI in the Handbook regarding a Conservation Plan was next. Lincoln had obtained existing Conservation Plans from Carol Andrews (NH Association of Conservation Commissions) prepared for the towns of Hanover, Exeter, and Newmarket for our review and reference. The following assignments were made in order to begin working on a draft plan: *Dave will draft a statement of objectives and John will draft the elements of the plan (what the chapters will cover).* Future tasks will be to determine what additional data we need to complete a plan and then to develop appropriate dialog with the Planning Board, perhaps scheduling a Town Forum on this subject to get public input. Everyone should review Chapter VI again for further discussions for the next meeting. *It was agreed that an article about the Conservation Plan should be placed in the next Con Com newsletter.*

Town Treasurer Suggestion: John reported that he learned from Walt Birdsall that the town investment pool currently pays in excess of 4% interest. About \$70,000 of the Conservation Fund is in this pool. The remainder is in a Citizens Bank account that pays only 1%. Since any future disbursements from the fund would not be an urgent withdrawal, *we voted to have John ask Walt to place all of the Conservation Funds into the town investment pool to earn the best possible interest rate.*

Trail markers: *Discussion postponed to the next meeting.*

Other Business:

Heald Tract Hike, May 21st: Lincoln led this hike on a day of on and off rain showers. Eight hikers participated. The next hike will be at the Town Forest on June 17th, at 1 pm. Meet at the Town Hall to car pool.

Town Forest: Available members will meet there on June 4th, 9 am, to pick up scrap metal.

Locked Moose Exhibit: John reported that he had contacted the volunteers handling this exhibit about bringing it to our Harvest Festival. They will check to see if it can be made available on the date of our Festival and let John know.

Temple Ledges: Eric reported that he noticed the gate was not locked and that a vehicle had been in the area. *John will investigate and lock the gate.*

Upcoming Events: Honey reported that there was a dead apple tree near the parking area at the Chris Weston Conservation area that could be cut down and replaced with one that would also support wild life, such as mountain ash. *This will be an agenda item for our next meeting.* Honey also distributed a summary of upcoming events that would be of interest to Con Com

members:

- Best Agriculture Management Practices Along Wetlands, June 19, 5:30-7:30pm, Burns Farm, Milford, NH
- Tree Farm Tour, June 17, 9-noon, Upland Farm, Peterborough, NH
- Celebrate NH Agriculture Day, August 20, watch the newspapers for details

Storm Surge: John reported that K. McDonald had asked the Select Board if anything could be done to protect her pond from a storm surge of water coming through the culvert that crosses Webster Highway across from her house. *John and Lincoln will look at the culvert at 9 am on Thursday, May 25th and report back at the next meeting.*

Temple Mountain: John reminded all that the NH Division of State Parks is having a listening session on June 14th at 7 pm for public input on uses for Temple Mountain in the Peterborough Town House. *All are welcome to attend.*

Meeting ended at 8:45 PM. Next meeting: June 12th at 7 PM, library.

Minutes submitted by Dave Repak

Italics above indicate tasks to be done.