

APPROVED

Town of Grantham
Grantham Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes
October 18, 2010

Chairman Richard L. Hocker called the Conservation Committee meeting to order on Monday, October 18, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. The meeting was held in the Jerry Whitney Memorial Room at Grantham Town Hall located at 300 Route 10 South in Grantham, NH.

PRESENT

Chairman Richard (Dick) Hocker
Andy Eastman
Merle Schotanus
Pat Woolson (Alt.)
Joe Watts (Alt.)
Lindsey Dixon (Alt.)

ABSENT

Jeremy Turner

Members of the Public: Kristina L. Burgard

Chair Richard Hocker stated to the Committee that Kristina Burgard was present this evening as a perspective new member taking Pat Woolson's place when she resigns.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Hocker asked the Committee members if they had reviewed the minutes from the September 20, 2010 meeting, were any additions/corrections to be made. *There being no corrections motion was made by Andy Eastman and second by Pat Woolson to approve the minutes of September 20, 2010. Unanimously Approved*

NEW BUSINESS

None

OTHER BUSINESS

Smith Lot Forest Management Plan – Handout

Chair Hocker stated he was going to circumvent the agenda this evening and save the "Planning for Conservation" last since this topic would be somewhat lengthy. Hocker said that he had intended to hand out a copy of the Smith Lot Forest Management Plan this evening, but would send instead in email form to members. Hocker stated the plan is in draft form so members if needed can make any modifications. Hocker said he felt the information on the town forest is an excellent document well written and very informative.

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Romano Property activity update

Hocker said that he had received a call from Kevin McManus with regards to the appraisal for the Romano property lots this week. Hocker said that he had also contacted Brian Holtz relative to meeting with Tara Romano but unfortunately he was on vacation while Tara Romano was in town this past weekend. Hocker said they would try to get back with Romano once they receive an appraisal. Any updates will be presented at the next GCC meeting.

Resignation

Chair Hocker stated this evening was alternate Pat Woolson's last GCC meeting and went on to thank her for all her time and effort that she has given since she has been a Grantham Conservation Committee member and how much she has been appreciated and hoped to use her assistants occasionally in the future if needed. Pat Woolson thanked the GCC in return.

Planning for Conservation – continued discussion

Chair Hocker opened the discussion with members' comments with new information received via email to them from Hocker regarding the REV3 of the Request for Proposal (RFP) efforts. Watts stated they had asked the potential contractors to price the one (1) and two (2) acre lots separately but not sure if the GCC provided them a place to do so. A change was made to page three (3) of the RFP to provide a place for the second quote. Andy Eastman asked about the complexity and cost of adding vernal pools to the inventory.

Schotanus talked about having volunteers during the evaluation process and other points of interest to finish up with before town meeting. Dixon said the one thing about vernal pools is possibly to evaluate them as a complex instead of individually and continued with knowledge she has on these topics.

The Commission at this point continued to discuss the changes needed to the RFP. The plan was to complete the revision process and get the RFP to the bidders as quickly as possible. Chair Hocker agreed to push the process and complete the effort to get the RFP out by end of the week. Merle then turned attention to the establishment of sub committees within the Commission to complete actions needed to get in position for a fast start at contract award.

There was much discussion amongst members with efforts to initiate the wetlands inventory before town meeting.

HANDOUTS

Merle Schotanus passed out recommended work plans for the Public Awareness, Land owner Access, land Volunteer components of the Wetlands Inventory with the suggestion that GCC members take responsibility for the work plans as follows:

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Public Awareness Program: Andy Eastman and Kristina Burgard

Landowner Access: Joe Watts and Jeremy Turner (Note: Jeremy was not present at the meeting).

Volunteers: Merle Schotanus and Lindsey Dixon

All present volunteered to work as teams to accomplish the tasks laid out in the work plans. Merle suggested that the plans included only his thoughts about what had to be done to get the wetlands inventory underway and invited all to provide comments, suggestions for improvement and their ideas about the work plans at the November GCC meeting.

AJOURNMENT

Chair Richard Hocker asked the members if anyone had any more questions. There being none motion was made by Andy Eastman and second by Pat Woolson
the committee voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:07 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on November 15, 2010 in the Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room.

Respectfully Submitted,

Martha M. Menard
Clerk