

Town of Grantham
Grantham Conservation Committee Minutes
September 21, 2009

APPROVED

Chairman Richard L. Hocker called the Conservation Committee meeting to order on Monday, September 21, 2009 at 7:05 p.m. The meeting was held in the Jerry Whitney Room at Grantham Town Hall located at 300 Route 10 South in Grantham, NH.

PRESENT

Chairman, Richard (Dick) Hocker
Adele Furdyna
Andy Eastman
Jeremy Turner
Pat Woolson (Alt.)
Martha M. Menard, Clerk

ABSENT

Merle Schotanus (Alt.)
Tom Vogel (arrived late)

Members of the public: John Fox; Shannon Hastings Fox; Dexter Kancer; Kris Traegde

Approval of Minutes

Chair Hocker asked the Committee members if they had reviewed the minutes from the August 17, 2009 meeting and if there were any additions/corrections. There being none a motion was made by Adele Furdyna and second Pat Woolson.

Unanimously Approved

New Business

Management Plan for 25 Shore Drive; Tax Map 213 Lot 087

Philip Weber/ Eastman.

Chair Hocker stated to the Committee members they should all have a copy of the exact document from property owner Philip Weber. Hocker said this was presented at the last meeting, and that Tom Vogel had taken the opportunity to visit the property with John Fox and the members should be in receipt of Vogel's notes. Hocker stated that Vogel was not present at this time and his notes would be made part of the proceedings.

John Fox asked Hocker if he could have a copy of the notes. Hocker stated let it be noted that John Fox received the information he requested.

Committee member Turner asked if the proposed cutting was in compliance with the current Shoreline Protection Act rules. Hocker stated that he really couldn't answer that since Vogel was not present. J. Fox said that Vogel should be here so as the committee could rule on this. Hocker stated that he recognized Vogel should be here this evening but could not force Vogel to do so. J. Fox continued to ask Hocker further questions with regards to his plans and Hocker told him that he could only address the Committee if he was recognized. Hocker then went on to discuss the property with the committee members and also stated he did not go on the walk the day Vogel had attended. Hocker stated that in Vogel's notes he had recommended approval for J. Fox and Woolson said

there also were conditions. Turner explained to J. Fox in terms of the committees' process and how they look at this, and that he himself had not been out there to the site and in all honesty told J. Fox that he was the professional and had the skill to know about the regulations that are in place now and they were pretty complicated. Turner went on to say to J. Fox that in the application and for future reference, it would probably be good for him to state that whatever activities he planned to do are within compliance with the new Shoreline Protection Act and what that does is give the committee the signal that he is aware of the regulation.

Turner continued to inform J. Fox that if he is hired by the landowner, it is the land owner who is fully liable for filling that regulation, and as long it is clear, and in front of the committee with his professional service to carry that out. Turner stated that if this is not carried out, then it goes to Department of Environmental Services. J. Fox stated that the only problem he had with this was the fact that Vogel had stated in his notes the application was marginally acceptable and questioned the wording and felt it was biased in his opinion. There was further discussion between Turner and J. Fox with regards to this application.

Adele Furdyna continued with questions for J. Fox with regards to cutting of trees and subject to keeping the soil in place. Hocker asked if there were any additional comments or ideas from the members. Turner stated that if J. Fox's plans are in compliance with the regulations set forth by the State and he is carrying them out for the landowner, he had no problem with this application.

Chair Hocker asked members if all were in favor. Jeremy Turner made motion; second Adele Furdyna. *Unanimously Approved*

Management Plan for 2 Turner Brae, Tax Map 215 Lot 068 Richard Bottelli/Eastman

The Committee members looked over the Management Plan for 2 Turner Brae M/L 215-068 that they had previously received and discussed amongst themselves. Turner stated the plans seemed a little more straightforward and made a motion to approve the cutting plan and second Pat Woolson. *Unanimously Approved*

Other Business

Trail Planning Effort

Dexter Kancer; Kris Traegde

Chair Hocker asked Dexter Kancer and Kris Traegde if they were ready to speak about the proposed trails. Dexter stated that, with the help of Jeremy Turner, is a proposal of what they would like to do for the Town. Dexter explained that he doesn't have much experience with putting in trails, but wanted to put the labor into this project and hoped they had enough information to get started. Dexter said he would like to clarify tonight with those who make the decisions. After looking over the plans Hocker asked what is the time for phase one (1) and Dexter said next summer. Hocker asked if anything had been contemplated between now and winter. Dexter stated only to proceed with the cutting for the trails this fall if approved and that a lot of the groundwork had been done to find where those trails could go. Andy Eastman asked if the trails had been flagged.

Dexter stated there are flag markings on some. There was much discussion with members of the committee with regards to the trails.

Chair Hocker stated since there was a consensus, that the committee should proceed. Phase one (1) of the trails was approved provided there is contact with the Conservation Committee on their progress. Hocker asked Dexter and Kris to keep in contact with Jeremy Turner.

Note: Tom Vogel arrived at 7:30p.m. and apologized for being late.

Springfield-Grantham Conservation Commission (GCC) Collaboration

Chair Hocker asked Pat Woolson if there was anything relative with the Collaboration since discussed at the last meeting. Woolson stated they did not meet, but there was another event in Springfield she had been invited to that evening that it was nice to be included in what is going on with Springfield. Woolson stated the GCC did know what was going on with Springfield and felt that in the future they should be invited.

Planning for Conservation

➤ Smith Lot – Map 211 Lot 012

Chair Hocker stated that the Towns Counsel came back with three pages of comments and was not received by the Selectmen until their meeting on September 9, 2009 with comments the following day. Hocker stated that the Selectmen would be signing the easement for the Smith Lot at their next meeting to take place on September 23, 2009.

➤ Heath Lane Lot – Map 234 Lots 134; 135; 137

Chair Hocker stated the Committee had received the appraisal back and there had been interest shown from another possible buyer. Hocker stated that he and Andy Eastman had briefed the Recreation Committee in Eastman of their plans, and they were supportive of the GCC endeavors as were other groups in Eastman. Hockers' next question to the members was where do they go from here, and continued to discuss other possibilities. The Committee continued to discuss the possibilities of these lots.

➤ Romano Tract – Map 232 Lot 004 et al

Chair Hocker said that he took the opportunity to speak to a resident on Dunbar Hill and they stated there would be a gathering of Grantham residents sometime the beginning of October and was hoping to get some feedback on whether there would be any changes.

➤ Frog Pond – Map 214 Lot 095

Hocker stated that as of right now there were tentative agreements with Eastman and that the remaining issue is the continued disposal of “ditch” material on the Frog Pond property, which mainly consists of plant material, not tree stumps. Hocker said that he would speak with the Selectmen on this matter.

➤ Stevens Lot – Map 232 Lot 009

No new developments

Eastman Management Plans Protocol Discussion:

Chair Hocker introduced committee member Tom Vogel:
Vogel reviewed the history for the last year regarding the Shoreline Protection Act and meeting those standards on a consistent basis. Vogel stated that he had designed an outline for cutting permits and a five (5) year master plan keeping in mind that this does not only involve Eastman but what the Grantham Conservation Committee authority is. Vogel went on to discuss issues and trying to achieve goals with the GCC regarding contractors along with both Grantham/Eastman residents. Vogel stated that this is not a commission of Eastman; it was a commission of Grantham and whatever standards need to be put in place, need to recognize the needs of individual property owners and community property.

Annual Flewelling Property Walk

Chair Hocker said that GCC members; Becky Newton, Town Administrator and Steve Walker from Concord joined together for the first part and later the walk continued on through the Flewelling Property. Hocker stated that Mr. Walker would be providing some signage for off road vehicles to property owner Karyn Partin and Don Minor for posting.

J. Turner asked a question with regard to the Flewelling lot. It is known that the existing right-of-way goes through the front yard of the owner's lot. Would there be another way to introduce a right a way in another location to maintain the owner's privacy? It is also known that the board and the local snowmobile club should work with the owner to find a suitable snowmobile access route.

Chair Hocker explained that the Commission would like to work with the current property owner to locate a suitable location for the snowmobile trail. There was further discussion and members gathered to look over the drawings from the property area that Chair Hocker had with him.

Correspondence

None

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on October 19, 2009 in the Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room.

Adjournment

Chair Hocker asked the members if anyone had any more questions. There being none Andy Eastman moved to adjourn; second by Adele Furdyna.

Respectfully Submitted

Martha M. Menard, Clerk