

APPROVED

Town of Grantham
Grantham Conservation Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2009

Chairman Richard L. Hocker called the Conservation Committee meeting to order on Monday, November 17, 2009 at 7:04 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
Pat Woolson (Alt.)
Merle Schotanus (Alt.)
Martha M. Menard, Clerk

ABSENT

Jeremy Turner
Tom Vogel

Members of the public: Robert & Pat MacNeil; Erin Darrow, P.E.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Hocker asked the Committee members if they had reviewed the minutes from the October 19, 2009 meeting and if there were any additions/corrections. Furdyna stated that on page 2, third paragraph, first sentence should read: Conversely, Town Counsel feels that a Town Meeting vote could be held and that the legislative body is in charge of the property. With no more corrections a motion was made by Merle Schotanus and second by Adele Furdyna to approve the minutes as written.

Unanimously Approved

New Business

None

Other Business

Project update: Grantham Indoors

Robert MacNeil (owner), Erin Darrow, P.E. Right Angle Engineering, PLLC.

Erin Darrow stepped forward with an updated drawing to explain recent changes regarding Grantham Indoor and their plans for the future to the Committee. Darrow stated that this past summer they had been working on the pond and were pretty close to being done. She pointed out on the drawing plans they have for extending the pond and in doing so would give them additional water storage capacity.

Darrow said this past summer they had an event where a beaver damn blew out of a culvert up stream near Sawyer Brook, and they were fortunate that the pond was there and contained a considerable volume of water. Darrow went on to explain about the restorations they were not able to do this summer because of the rain and stated that they have been in contact with NH Fish & Game, Department of Environmental Services

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(DES) and NH Wetlands Bureau. Darrow went on with further explanation of Grantham Indoors plans for the future. MacNeil spoke of the event (the damn blow out) they had and being there when this happened to the Committee members. Schotanus asked how deep the pond was. MacNeil stated 22-26 feet and have since pumped it. There was much discussion about this situation and the need for extending the pond. MacNeil said that they have talked to the Selectmen about the need to justify their plans.

MacNeil pointed out that this was just his idea (on the drawing) of what he would like to work out with the support of the Committee members and said he realizes that this is not a negotiable matter. Questions were asked of MacNeil with regards to this project from Committee members and in return MacNeil would point them out on the drawing or explain them. Schotanus asked about this project having any effect on the east end where Rosie Bard's property is or in the future. MacNeil stated only beneficial and keeps her updated as to what is going on. MacNeil went on to say that he felt he had a good relationship with Rosie Bard. MacNeil further discussed with the Committee members an invitation to come out to the property and view the changes going on. MacNeil thanked the members and Darrow passed out extra copies of the new drawings before leaving.

Smith Lot update:

Hocker stated that he attended the Selectmen's meeting last week and the Selectmen approved the Conservation Easement for the Smith Lot.

Frog Pond update:

Hocker stated that the Conservation Committee is at the point now where they are waiting for the required signatures to complete the act, and the decision now rests whether or not this will require the Selectmen's signatures or the Committees. Hocker said he hopes to be in touch with Town Administrator, Becky Newton within the next week.

Planning for Conservation: Sub-Committee Adele Furdyna; Merle Schotanus and Pat Woolson

Furdyna stated that they had two (2) meetings and from the first meeting sent out recommendations of the Critical Conservation Lands Index (CCLI). They discussed summary of the Rules and Regulations pertaining to the Zoning Ordinance and the matched Master Plan 2005 Action Plan items for Grantham Conservation Commission. Also discussed was interest pertaining to applying for a state grant. This will be an ongoing study at this time.

Shore Land Protection Ordinance:

Hocker stated with regards to Article III K: Shore Land /River Overlay District that he had sent Town Administrator Becky Newton and Zoning Board Chair Conrad Frey emails with regards to possible changes for this zoning ordinance. This will be continued until the next meeting.

Handouts:

A P P R O V E D

Chair Hocker handed out to members:
Information on Grantham's past/present birth/population rates.

Comments:

Hocker stated that he indicated to the Selectmen some background work on the Romano Lot he was doing and discovered that there are about 706 acres, of which 698 of those will be of interest, the current assessed value is \$329,000 dollars. This will be an ongoing project for the committee.

Correspondence

None

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on December 21, 2009 in the Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room.

Adjournment

Hocker asked the members if anyone had any more questions. There being none motion by Merle Schotanus and second by Pat Woolson.

Respectfully Submitted,

Martha M. Menard
GCC Clerk