

Hampton Falls Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes: 6/13/13 DRAFT

Present: Bobbi Burns (Chair), Kay Graham, Robert Wiener, Paul Melanson

Members of the Public: Glenn Schrempf

Absent: Bonnie French, Dale Ohsberg, Nancy Roka (Vice Chair), John Ratigan, JP Pontbriand, David Gandt, Emily Bowers (secr.)

Opened meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Motion to approve May minutes as is made by K. Graham, 2nd R. Wiener, passed unanimously.

Niebling Property – Letter mailed to neighbor requesting dumping of grass clippings and leaves on Niebling property cease. Neighbor expressed concerned regarding road flooding and was told by previous road agent that dumping of grass clippings would help. Neighbor agreed to stop. Road agent and the selectmen chair notified of road flooding concern. Both have examined the road.

Southeast Land Trust easement completed. Invoice for \$7,022.99 was paid based on previous approval of up to \$7,500.00.

Town Forest – Walk scheduled with Mark Borman, state forester with UNH Coop Ext for Fri, June 28, 9:00 am, Raspberry Farm parking lot. Mark will review the forest and help us understand condition.

Marsh Lane – B. Burns walked the property with Southeast Land Trust. A neighbor is storing concrete and telephone poles partially on the property. CC discussed possibility of erecting a fence. B. Burns will send letter to neighbor requesting the materials be removed. Fence discussion will await results.

Marsh Lane & Raspberry Farm – L.R.M. Lawncare provided a price of \$30 per cut per property for parking lot mowing and trimming. K. Graham made a motion to approve cutting twice per month from May through September. R. Wiener seconded. Approved unanimously.

Wetland Setbacks – Group reviewed 1st draft of new ordinance. Major points included;

- desire to remove man-made basins and drainage areas that are not connected to natural wetlands from the definition of wetlands. Wording must be such that wetlands created previously to modern day do not fall within the definition of man-made. Examples of excluded water bodies to include a stand-alone, man-made duck pond, a man-made retention pond or drainage ditch.
- agreement that agriculture should continue to be a permitted use.
- support of a gradation of setbacks that keeps a 100 foot setback for prime wetlands, perennial streams and vernal pools and reduced setback requirements of other wetlands.
- no support for a no-cut no disturbance buffer, but support for a no stump removal buffer. CC wants to discourage removal of natural resources within the wetlands buffer, creation of lawns and fertilization, but is unwilling to tell residents they can't cut within the buffer.

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CC examined impacts of setback changes to previously proposed developments.

CC agreed to review draft and provide feedback to B. Burns. B. Burns will present preliminary draft to Planning Board on June 25. B. Burns to get a price from the town circuit rider, Rockingham County Planning Commission to do the next reviews of the ordinance.

Received West Environmental invoice. Cost was higher than expected. B. Burns to contact Mark and question why this is above the \$200 the CC approved.

Motion to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. by K. Graham, 2nd R. Wiener, passed unanimously.

Submitted by B. Burns, Chair

Next Meeting: Thurs., July 11, 6:30 p.m.