

## Minutes of the Meredith Conservation Commission Meeting July 1st, 2010

The meeting was called to order by Chairman MacFarlane at 7:00 PM.

Members attending: Don MacFarlane, Mark Billings, Ralph Pisapia, Peter Miller, John Sherman, Paula Wanzer, Robert Davis

Alternate members attending: Mark Tuckerman, Dan Heyduk

Guest: MCC volunteer Warren Clark

### Signage

Warren Clark and members engaged in a lengthy and interesting discussion of making and installing trail signs. Some of the issues touched on: Wood vs. synthetic material (e.g. trex), background color of signs, how to join pieces of synthetic material for multiple line signs, size of letters, U vs. V-shaped bits, use of brush vs. syringe to paint carved letters, size and type of bolts, etc. Clark is volunteering to carve and paint the Page Pond trail signs. Commission to decide type of material to use for signs. Billings and Sherman to supply text of signs when ready to do so.

### Approval of Minutes

Per motion of Billings, seconded by Pisapia, the minutes of the June 22<sup>nd</sup> Meeting and Public Hearing were approved unanimously.

### Dredge and Fill Report

Moritz, Raymond  
96 Water St.  
Tax Map U-8, Lot #18

Recommend approval.  
Repair existing grandfathered boathouse by replacing deteriorated and cracked concrete support pilings.

On motion of Billings, seconded by Sherman, the Commission voted unanimously to accept the dredge and fill report.

### Dockham Town Forest

MacFarlane, Heyduk, Billings, and Sherman have visited the site since completion of the timber cut. While the overall cut seems okay, some issues were noted. Heyduk and MacFarlane expressed concerns about the large brush pile near the entrance to this town

forest, finding it excessively “in your face” and possibly a violation of contract. Sherman concerned about status of parking because of difficult access. Billings noted the wheels of his vehicle sunk in due to softness of gravel. Stone wall breaches have not been repaired, but contract did not require that.

Commission to solicit the assistance of DPW to resolve brush pile and parking issues. Brush pile to be dispersed, parking to be relocated in front of gate with gravel added to remediate softness. Costs to be paid from proceeds of timber harvest. MacFarlane to follow up with Mike Faller.

### Page Pond

Faller also to be consulted regarding creating holes for Page Pond kiosk posts.

### Spear Conservation Easement

Anecdotal feedback indicates the Waukegan Shore Owners Association is still raising funds for the Spear Property purchase. As of this date, the project seems on track to close circa August 8<sup>th</sup>.

### Page Pond Background History

Heyduk re-introduced the subject of a background history for Page Pond Town Forest. Such a report could include information about geology, archeology, colonial settlement, families that have resided on the land, agricultural history, ecology, and current management. Assuming no other members want to undertake this project, Heyduk has volunteered to write this report. Miller offered to loan Heyduk documents he possesses on Dudley Leavitt and the old lumber mill. The report could be placed on the Town’s website, with hard copies available in the library and other locations. A copy should be sent to LCHIP, because LCHIP designated Page Pond a cultural resource.

On motion of Pisapia, seconded by Davis, the Commission voted unanimously to reimburse Heyduk for expenses he incurs in writing the Page Pond history.

### Member Comments

Miller noted that Dr. Robert Hamlin might be visiting Meredith this summer. Dr. Hamlin was instrumental in preserving the 320 +/- acre Hamlin Recreation and Conservation Area back in the 1970’s. It has been many years since he was last in Meredith. Miller will keep the Commission posted.

Sherman brought up the subject of the Hatch wetland, which disappeared a few years ago. Following discussion, the Commission resolved to pursue this matter with DES. Pisapia to draft a letter.

Sherman also encouraged scheduling guided walks in the town forests this summer. Consultant Peter Ellis could be enlisted to lead a walk in Hamlin, per terms of our contract with him. Belknap County Forester Andy Fast is another resource. Pisapia reminded members that we have funds in our budget to pay for guided walks.

Upcoming Events

Page Pond trail planning, Friday July 16<sup>th</sup> 1:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Miller, Secretary