

## **Minutes of the Meredith Conservation Commission Meeting July 15th, 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, Robert Davis

Alternate members attending: Bob LeCount, Jacquie Colburn, Mark Tuckerman, Dan Heyduk

Mark Tuckerman was designated a voting member this meeting.

Guests:

David Thorpe, Meredith Water System Committee  
Daniel Leonard, Meredith Water Superintendent  
John Brooks, Ph.D., Senior Geologist, Emery & Garrett Groundwater, Inc

### **Meredith Groundwater Supply Assessment Program**

Dave Thorpe introduced this subject. He explained why the Water System Committee wants a groundwater supply study done. Though his committee does not foresee a treatment capacity problem developing in the next 20+/- years, the committee is concerned about possible distribution failure. Malfunction of the treatment plant, the water tank, or the feed from the tank could disrupt water supply to substantial parts of the town. Groundwater could be an alternative water source in the event of distribution failure. It would create redundancy in a cost effective way. Thus the town has hired Emery & Garrett to conduct a groundwater supply study.

John Brooks presented a power point regarding this study. The purpose of the study is to develop a backup emergency potable water supply for the town. Both bedrock and sand/gravel aquifers will be investigated. A phase approach will be employed. Some highlights of Brooks' presentation:

Phase I: Geologic mapping and selection of groundwater development zones. Setback exclusions eliminate large portions of the town from the study. Structural discontinuities (bedrock fractures) will be investigated as possible groundwater sources. Lineament analysis, which utilizes aerial and satellite data, will help locate fractures. Conservation lands may be possible locations of groundwater supply. Thus far, 15 bedrock well zones and 2 sand/gravel zones have been identified.

Phase II: Geophysical surveys, selection of exploratory test well sites. Survey will employ magnetometers and VLF radio waves.

Phases III, IV, V: Drill test wells, convert to production wells, estimate yield and quality of groundwater.

Phase VI: Submit preliminary report to DES, apply for water withdrawal permit, conduct public hearing.

Phase VII: Determine sustainable yield and water quality of production wells. Impact on surface waters and wetlands will be studied with Piezometers. Zones of contribution will be delineated.

Phase VIII: Submit final report, conduct public hearing.

Brooks was asked what Emery & Garrett needs from the Conservation Commission at this time. Nothing is needed at present, but support for the study may be needed in future. Study of wetland impacts will require permits, which the Commission will review.

#### Approval of Minutes

Per motion of Sherman, seconded by Tuckerman, the minutes of the July 1<sup>st</sup> meeting were approved unanimously, with one revision: Under "Page Pond Background History," change "white settlement" to "colonial settlement".

#### Treasurer's Report

See addendum to these minutes.

Per motion of Tuckerman, seconded by Billings, the Commission voted unanimously to accept treasurer's report as presented.

#### Dockham Town Forest

The Commission has consulted with DPW chief Mike Faller regarding the parking and brush pile issues. Faller willing to improve parking per the Commission's wishes, but he is reluctant to chip the brush pile due to stone and soil that are likely to be embedded in it. Following discussion, the Commission resolved to let the pile remain as it is. Though not ideally located, it may become good wildlife habitat in time.

#### Spear Conservation Easement

No update to report.

### Page Pond

Kiosk: Per motion of Tuckerman, seconded by Davis, the Commission unanimously approved expending up to \$1,000 for kiosk materials.

Trails: The intent is to develop the Quarry Road end first.

### Signage

Following discussion, the Commission resolved to use trex as the material for the Page Pond trail signs. There was brief review of the larger signs needed for Page Pond and the Community Town Forests.

### Bench Donation – Community Town Forest

This matter will be taken up by Selectmen at a forthcoming meeting.

### Guided Hikes

Commission has been in touch with Andy Fast, Belknap County Forester, and Peter Ellis, ecological consultant, regarding leading interpreted outings in the town forests.

### Archeological Site Inventory

Heyduk called the Commission's attention to this inventory. There are artifacts in Page Pond (and other town forests) worthy of listing.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Miller, Secretary

**Meredith Conservation Commission - 2010 Budget Summary** (July 14, 2010)

<b>Permanent Fund 5</b>				<b>Notes</b>		
	Conservation Fund	\$ 66,599.04		Includes three 2009 additions		
	2009 Land Use Change Tax			\$45,030.00		
	2009 LCHIP Interest			\$ 467.50		
	2009 Thorndike Donations			\$ 150.00		
	2009 Smyth Donation	\$ 10,000.00				
	2010 LCHIP Interest	\$ 165.00				
	<b>Total Fund 5 Conservation Fund</b>		\$76,764.04			
<b>Annual Fund 5 - 2010 Town Meeting</b>						
	Dues	\$ 365.00		10.00		
	Meetings & Training	400.00		175.00		
	Travel Expenses	150.00				
	Regional Associations	400.00				
	Office Supplies	200.00		10.44		
	<b>Total 2010 Annual Funds</b>		\$ 1,319.56	<b>Balance Available – 7-14-2010</b>		
<b>Open Purchase Orders</b>						
		<b>7-14-10 Balance</b>			Prior Year Funds Available in 2010	
	P.O. 1668 Trail Improve/Maintenance (2009)	\$ 1,966.31				
	P.O. 2314 Professional Services (2009)	\$ 13,735.00				
			(\$8,000.00)		Ellis Ecological contract	
	P.O. 2796 Conservation Land Costs	\$ 2,000.00				
			(\$2,000.00)		Page Pond Parking Lot	
	P.O. 2798 Professional Services (2008)	\$ 8,000.00				
	P.O. 2799 Trail Improve/Maintenance (2008)	\$ 6,778.80				
	<b>Total Open Purchase Orders</b>		\$22,480.11			
<b>Other Funds</b>						
	Open Space Expendable Trust Fund	\$ 1,874.85				
	Page Pond Stewardship Fund (Fund # 1 Reserve)	\$ 8,094.35			Funds received prior to becoming a Town Forest	
	<b>Total</b>		\$ 9,969.20		Requires BOS Approval to expend	
	Dockham Timber Management Cut	\$ 12,918.34			Funds will go to school fund after CC extracts costs of conducting cut	
<b>Conservation Bonds</b>						
<b>(Long term debt)</b>		<b>Original Amount</b>	<b>Issue Date</b>	<b>Maturity Date</b>	<b>Interest Rate</b>	<b>Outstanding Amount</b>
	Eames/Longridge	\$500,000	2004	2014	3.990%	
	Page Pond	\$400,000	2010	2020	3.800%	