

Minutes of the Meredith Conservation Commission Meeting Sept 2, 2010

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

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

Alternate members attending: Bob LeCount, Dan Heyduk

Heyduk was designated a voting member this meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Per motion of Billings, seconded by Davis, the minutes of the August 5th meeting were approved unanimously.

Dredge and Fill Report

See addendum to these minutes for list of items.

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

Reimbursements/Expenditures

Per motion of Pisapia, seconded by Billings, the Commission voted unanimously to pay the following:

Dan Heyduk	\$19.20	books
Mark Billings	\$453.93	Page Pond kiosk
Public Works	\$368.48	Page Pond kiosk
LWWA	\$50.00	donation

Note: The LWWA is the Lake Winnepesaukee Watershed Association.

Spear Property and Conservation Easement

The property and easement will be closed on tomorrow, Sept 3rd. MacFarlane will represent the Commission at the closing.

Pisapia reminded members that the Commission will expend \$10,000 from its Conservation Fund toward the cost of the property, as previously approved. The Town of Meredith will pay the legal fees associated with this transaction.

Page Pond

Kiosk: Billings noted several things remain to be done, such as adding more fill and gravel around the posts and painting the inside walls. We also must create the displays to be mounted.

Signs: Billings noted that signage at the junction of route 25 and Quarry Rd. is being pursued. Commission will contract with Bill Becker, DBA as Ian Graphics, to create sign to be placed under kiosk overhang. Per motion of Pisapia, seconded by Miller, the Commission unanimously voted to expend up to \$1,000 toward the cost of this sign.

Smyth Easement

MacFarlane updated Commission members on the status of the new trail to Arbutus Hill summit. Property owner Lou Kahn is spearheading this initiative, which is progressing rapidly. Tuckerman, MacFarlane, and Miller have all provided input.

Original through-trail punchlist of items yet to be completed:

Position boulders at stream crossing to facilitate rock hopping (MacFarlane, Tuckerman)
Paint blazing. Miller indicated he will need assistance.

Formal opening. Likely to be scheduled first week of October, Miller to coordinate.

Hamlin Gravel Access Road: Chain or Gate?

Miller described some problems that have occurred due to the chain. The slack in the chain allows it to be lifted and vehicles to pass under. This has resulted in vehicle incursions in Hamlin and the abutting property owned by Sue and David Larsen. Both this summer and last, local residents have had to call Meredith police to the site to break up large parties. Miller noted that four wheelers are occasionally going under (or around) the chain to access the skidder paths and proceed up to Kahn's property and Arbutus Hill Rd.

A gate might be a more effective barrier. Miller to research Hamlin files to see if there is language in any of the pertinent documents prohibiting a gate.

Media

Mucci submitted drafts of write up and poster for the Peter Ellis events on Sept 16th and 18th. Wanzer to revise poster.

Dockham Town Forest

Forester Shaun Lagueux has noted that one option regarding the infamous brush pile is to have the fire department do a controlled burn. Following brief discussion, per motion of Billings, seconded by Davis, the Commission voted unanimously to let the brush pile remain as it is.

GIS Assistance

MacFarlane reminded members that Meredith resident Cathy Callahan is available to assist with GIS on a volunteer basis.

The town appears to have hired a new GIS specialist.

Invasive Species

Pisapia informed members that permits have been obtained to attempt to control Japanese knotweed with herbicide at the junction of Mill St and Route 3 and along one side of Waukegan St.

Member Comments

Miller noted that the Longridge Farm produce stand, now known as Picnic Rock, appears to be doing good business this summer. It is being co-managed by Ward Bird, John Hodsdon's cousin.

Billings called the Commission's attention to the fate of the old State School property, which is currently receiving intense review. Though the property is in Laconia, it is of concern to greater Lakes Region conservation. LRPC is involved, as are a number of other groups.

Chairman Comment

MacFarlane called members' attention to a document titled, "Amending/Terminating Conservation Easements: Conforming to State Charitable Trust Requirements."

Upcoming Events

Peter Ellis outing Sept 18th
Smyth Trail opening TBA

Meeting adjourned at 8:33.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Miller, Secretary

<p>MIEA Saponaro, David 134 Blackbrook Road Meredith NH 03253 Tax Map W02/15A</p> <p>PBN McNulty, William 9 Fish Cove Rd Meredith NH 03253 Tax Map U28/11</p> <p>ZBA Application John Edgar 80 Waukewan St Meredith NH 03253 Tax Map U3/26A</p>	<p>Recommended approval. Extension of seasonal dock from 30' to 40' length. Allowed by rule</p> <p>Recommended approval. Repair cribs of 4' by 35' dock.</p> <p>Approval letter to ZBA Proposed two car garage addition to existing residence.</p>	
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D&F Applications