

TOWN OF DURHAM
Conservation Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 13, 2005

Chairman Brian Ameche at the Durham Public Library called the meeting to order at 7:38 PM.

Members Present: Brian Ameche, Ralph Chase, Joseph Dattilo, Rick Huntley, Bill LaFlamme, Adam Moore, Rick Terrill

Excused: Ray Bahr, Bob Melvin

Approval of November Meeting Minutes: Ralph Chase, seconded by Bill LaFlamme to approve the November 8, 2005 minutes as distributed made a motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Amendments to Agenda / Approval of Agenda: Rick Huntley, seconded by Ralph Chase to approve the agenda as presented, made a motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Payment of Bills: Pam Huntley, \$22.50 for secretarial services. Ralph Chase, seconded by Bill LaFlamme to approve payment of the bills, made a motion. Motion passed unanimously

Public Session: none

Site Development Plan Review – Rogers, Rogers & Dinatale – NW of Mauro Drive & S of George Washington Trail: General discussion and review of maps. There was discussion of proposal from Pat Dinatale to donate a parcel of land to the Town in lieu of a conservation easement. Ralph Chase, seconded by Bill LaFlamme to acknowledge the 13 acre parcel as part of this site development plan from Pat Dinatale as gift to the Town with the understanding that there will be additional acreage to be donated in the future, made a motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Site Development Plan Review – Other TBD: none.

Status of Proposed Open Space Acquisitions and Update on the New Phase of Open Space Acquisition Program: Discussions continuing with property owners Pat Dinatale, Jim Scott and Richard Vynalek. Brian Ameche, Adam Moore and Rick Terrill will meet with new First Selectman Jim McLaughlin to bring him up to date with the status of Open Space Acquisitions.

Open Space Issues Report – Status ERT Reports for Curtis Woodlands and Pent Road, Dead Hill Road & Cream Pot Road access gates, Curtis Woodlands encroachments, Signs, Security, Maintenance, Other: No report has been received from the ERT review for Curtis Woodlands and Pent Road. Adam Moore has arranged for an ERT review of the Mt. Pisgah/Cream Pot Road property. The review is scheduled for Tuesday, March 14, 2006 at 9:30AM. The group will meet at the Durham Public Library before heading out to the sites. Ralph Chase and Brian Ameche staked and flagged the 2 locations for the pipe gates on Dead Hill Road and Cream Pot Road. Public Works needs to schedule a date for installation of the

gates. Brian Ameche distributed a draft memo for review regarding the Curtis Woodlands encroachment issue. It was the sense of those present to send the memo as distributed. Jim Libby reported to Brian Ameche that a severe natural dam has formed from debris on Allyn Brook at the White's Farm property. There is no flow below this dam and is causing the brook to flood the surrounding area. It was suggested that the Commission take a look at the situation to determine if it requires immediate attention.

Chair's Report – Correspondence, Memorial Plantings, Other: none

Regular Meeting Dates for 2006: Ralph Chase, seconded by Joe Dattilo to accept the meeting dates as established for the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Motion passed unanimously. Rick Huntley submitted the dates to the Library. The June 13, 2006 meeting will be held upstairs in the activity room.

Other Business: There was discussion with Pat Dinatale about the conditions on the gift of a parcel of land for Open Space. He is requesting public access limited to hiking on the trail, maintaining access to property for himself and his immediate heirs (grandchildren) with retaining the ability to maintain trails and maintain hunting rights. There were discussions about the various methods to accomplish this request. Joe Dattilo gave an update on the calendar project. He distributed samples from various companies along with price quotes per calendar. There was discussion about the format of the calendar and suggestions about photographs to use.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Huntley
Recording Secretary