

**TOWN OF DURHAM**  
**Conservation Commission**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, February 13, 2007**

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by Chairman Brian Ameche at the Durham Public Library.

**Members Present:** Brian Ameche, Ralph Chase, Casey Cordes, Rick Huntley, Bill LaFlamme, Bob Melvin

**Approval of January Meeting Minutes:** Ralph Chase, seconded by Casey Cordes to approve the January 9, 2007 minutes as distributed, made a motion. Motion passed with one abstention.

**Amendments to Agenda / Approval of Agenda:** The Blacksheep Squadron's annual use permit request for White's Farm to be added as item 5A. Casey Cordes, seconded by Bill LaFlamme to approve the agenda as distributed and amended, made a motion. Motion passed unanimously.

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

**Public Session:** Pat Dinatale brought a proposal to swap a 3.5 acre parcel of Town open space land on Birch Mill Road for a 7 acre parcel that abuts a 13 acre parcel bordering the Washington Trail that he donated last year, making the open space parcel 20 acres. Discussion ensued. The 3.5 acre parcel needs to be appraised and it was agreed to split the cost of the appraisal between Mr. Dinatale and the Commission.

**Request to use Whites Farm – Cato Rocket Club – Al Glower:** Ralph Chase, seconded by Bob Melvin to accept the schedule provided by Cato Rocket Club (3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month, June-October with the following Sunday as a backup date, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month as a backup site, March-May and November-December) with the proviso that use on Sunday as a backup date is from noon-4PM after notifying the Commission first to make sure there are no conflicts of use, and that proof of insurance be provided, made a motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Request to use Whites Farm – Blacksheep Squadron:** Bob Melvin, seconded by Ralph Chase to approve the general permit annual request from the Blacksheep Squadron for use of Whites Farm pending supplying the appropriate proof of insurance, made a motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Old Blue Hills Subdivision – Revision to conservation easement – John Bennet:** Discussion about the entrance road and moving it over 37'. Ralph Chase, seconded by Bill LaFlamme to recommend to Planning & Zoning to accept the alternate road location and revision to the conservation easement as presented by John Bennet, made a motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Status of Proposed Open Space Acquisitions and Update on the New Phase of Open Space Acquisition Program:** Rick Terrill is working on identifying new acquisition possibilities.

**Open Space Issues Reports – Dead Hill Road & Creampot Road Gates, Signs, Security, Maintenance, Other:** Commission will check to see if the additional gate for Creampot Road has been delivered to the Town garage. The property boundary signs will be installed this spring. Brian distributed copies of the Environmental Review Team (ERT) report on Mt. Pisgah to Commission members. The ERT would like the Commission to fill out a questionnaire by the end of March. The Commission needs more time to review the reports in order to answer the questionnaire and Brian will let the ERT know that. Casey Cordes will take the first stab at outlining recommendations from the first ERT report on the Curtis Woodlands property. Rick Huntley reported on the information he received from DEP pertaining to coyote management. Discussion ensued and the consensus of the Commission was to not allow hunting of coyotes on open space properties.

**Open forum with Property Stewards – Final Roster: Whites Farm – Jack Stahl; Pent Road (Deerfield Farm) – Melynda Naples; Howd Road – Matt Reed; Pisgah Mountain - Andy Golschneider with BSA Troop 27; Creampot Valley – George & Irene Roberts; Curtis Woodlands – Rob Williams; Portion of Wimler Property with Public Access – Dick Porter; and Sawmill Road – Ray Koba:** The only report this month pertains to the amount of trash on the Whites Farm property. A request will be made to have the Town pick up the trash. Bob Melvin commented that the bluebird boxes in the Town nursery area should be cleaned out.

**Chair’s Report – Correspondence, Memorial Plantings, Other:** Copies of the CACIWC newsletter were distributed. Memorial plantings for Roger Newton and Charlie Wimler are planned for the spring.

**Other Business:** None

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Huntley  
Recording Secretary