

# TOWN OF DURHAM

## Conservation Commission

### Regular Meeting Minutes

*Tuesday January 12, 2010*

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by Chairman Casey Cordes at the Durham Public Library

**Members Present:** Casey Cordes, Bill LaFlamme, Bob Melvin, Joe Dattilo, Rick Huntley

**2. Amendments to Agenda/ Approval of January Agenda:** *A motion was made by Rick Huntley seconded by Bob Melvin to amend the agenda to correct item 2 to read January not December agenda. Add item 3a. November Regular Meeting, 3b. January 9, 2010 Special Meeting. Move item 6a after item 8, add to item 7 j. Nestbox- rough sawn lumber, k. Signage. Approved unanimously.*

**3. Approval of Minutes from A-November Regular Meeting, B- January 9, 2010 Special Meeting :** *A. A motion was made by Joe Dattilo seconded by Rick Huntley to approve the November Regular Meeting minutes. B. A motion was made by Rick Huntley, seconded by Joe Dattilo to approve the January 9, 2010 Meeting minutes, motions passed unanimously.*

**4. Public Session:** *Discussion of issues on the Sawmill/Smith property, with abutting property owner Mark Giancola - access, mowing, hunting, invasive species, beaver damage.*

**5. Payment of Bills:** *A motion was made by Bob Melvin, seconded by Joe Dattilo to pay dec 8, 2009 bill from Pam Huntley for secretarial services-\$45.00, bill for 2009 mowings on Whit'e Farm- \$2,406.00, and a bill from Benjamin & Bascom for flagging of wetlands Birch Mill Road property-\$300.00. Motion approved unanimously.*

**6. New Business:**

**A. Election of Conservation Commission Officers for 2010-moved to after item 8**

**B. Site Survey Summary of Sawmill & Smith properties-** *some items discussed under Public Session. Discussed using Agricultural Commission as a tool to contact people interested in Haying, and beaver management*

**C. Forbes Fulton Property –** *Per Realtor, owner wants to donate property to the town. The Conservation Commission elected to pass, no interest.*

**7. Old Business:**

- A. Land Acquisition Evakuation Criteria** – *Nothing from Geoff Colegrove*
- B. Scott Property Agricultural Easment Update and Proclamation-Conservation Commission** will send letter thanking Mr Scott.
- C. New Gate and key Update**-*Form letter being sent to specified key holders.*
- D. White's Farm Update** – *Discussion with Sue White of removing brush while ground frozen. Possibility of getting a front loader for bigger material removal. Discussion with Senator Meyer if Durham had a plan would funding be available. Donation from Ed Novak of \$200.00 to the Friends of Durham Conservation Commission.*
- E. Continuing Evaluation of parking Development & Lease Proposal for Map 68, lot 8**-*Discussion of site walk, wetlands flagging, and recommendation to lease for parking.*
- F. Deerfield Farm Lease & Back Payment Update** – *Lease signed December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009. Do to changes in insurance coverage lease has been revised and forwarded on to Melynda. She still owes 2 back payments. She is upto date on the lease extension payment and 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2010. Discussion of budgeting money for interior painting of the barn. Rick Huntley suggested the Commission approach the Agriclural Commission on helping with day to day management of the farm.*
- G. FY2010 & 2011 Budget Cycle** – *Discussed Commission's needs and budget.*
- H. Joint Synopsis** – *Bob Melvin will attend the joint meeting.*
- I. Howd Road Property – Communications** Casey will write Cella Bros. about our plans for a gate and tree plantings.
- J. Nestbox – Rough Sawn Lumber** – *Commission's application request for 2 rough sawn lumber bundles was approved. And needs to be picked up. Possible Eagle scout project to organize, get materials and build boxes. Rick Huntley will approach the Boy Scouts. Bob Thody offered to store the bundles.*
- K. Signage** – *Discussion on easement signage. Also discussion on open space signage on Dunn Hill rd property with steward Mark Smolley. Mark also made a suggestion to prohibit screw in steps when hunting. The commission agreed, and will look into adding to hunting lottery applications in the future.*
- 8. Open forum with Property Stewards – Final Roster: White's Farm – Jack Stahl; Pent Rd (Deerfield Farm) – Melynda Naples; Howd Rd – Matt Reed; Pisgah Mountain – Andy Golschneider with BSA Troop 27; Creampot Valley – George and Irene Roberts; Curtis Woodlands – Rob Williams; Portion of Wimler Property with Public Access – Dick Porter; and Sawmill Rd – Ray Koba: None.**

*The meeting was adjourned at 9:15PM*

Respectfully Submitted

William LaFlamme

Secretary