

CENTER HARBOR CONSERVATION COMMISSION
APPROVED Meeting Minutes
Cary Mead Meeting Room
Municipal Building; Center Harbor, NH
Tuesday, September 10, 2013

CALL TO ORDER At 10: a.m. the meeting was called to order. Commission members present were Bruce Bond, Chair, Maureen Criasia, Harry Viens, Karin Karagozian, JoAnn Wood, Gwen Bronson and Barbara Picard. Commission member absent with notice was Randy Mattson.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

July 16, 2013: Harry Viens moved to approve the minutes; Karin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

UPDATES

Fogg Hill:

There is a site visit to the Fogg Hill property scheduled for September 25th by Rick Van de Poll, Don Berry of the LRCT and a DES representative. October 31 is the target closing date on the property. Maureen distributed a copy of the LRCT appeal letter for the campaign to raise funds for the project. Kristen Clothier, Director of Development of the LRCT, is running the fundraising; contributions are coming in. It is yet to be determined exactly when our \$40,000 from the conservation commission for the purchase of the easement will be released. The total project goal to LRCT is \$190,000. The remaining \$150,000 needs to be raised from individuals, families, businesses, foundations and grants. There has been a grant submission to the DES, seeking monies from the ARM Fund (Aquatic Resource Mitigation Fund) toward the purchase of the property.

Water Resources Ordinance:

It is important to develop a comprehensive ordinance based on "real science" for water resource management. There has been a rewrite of section 10 with this goal in mind. Rick Van de Poll has provided scientific material and the ordinance is written so that if it is ever disputed in court, it would stand up based on the science. Maureen, Harry, Mike Izard and Rick Van de Poll have met with the Planning Board and other interested parties to review the first draft. Issues for discussion have been addressed and a revised draft will be presented on October 1st to the Planning Board. Two public hearings will be scheduled, one targeted for November and one planned for after the holidays.

The ordinance will be accompanied by a revised wetlands map that will go on as a separate warrant article. Therefore, even if the ordinance is defeated, the map could still be approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Newsletter

For the fall newsletter that will go out with the tax bills, we will write a brief article describing the ordinance, the new wetlands map that will accompany the ordinance, and the fact that we have one prime wetland remaining to approve. We will also inform the public about the Fogg Hill project.

JoAnn made a motion that Bruce will draft a newsletter article with the help of Maureen and Harry addressing the above. Harry seconded and there was unanimous approval.

OTHER BUSINESS

Energy

Harry described a potential opportunity regarding community solar power within the town called, "distributed generation". This is a concept where small generating facilities feed into a central grid. The project would involve putting solar panels on one piece of land; businesses and residents could then tap in to the output that is provided and sold through the local utility. This concept would save residents and businesses from the expense of installing solar panels on their own properties, therefore providing less expensive power to the community. We have an old dumpsite on Keyser Road that could possibly be a location for solar panels. Investment money would come from federal grants or the local utility.

Harry will discuss the concept with the Energy Committee.

Squam Lakes Association Publication

The Squam Lakes Association published their first ever 2013 Squam Watershed Assessment Report. This edition looks at historical trends and offers background into the various parameters studied in and around Squam. The Association is dedicated to the conservation of the Squam Watershed.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by JoAnn, seconded by Karin. Meeting adjourned at 11:33 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Picard, Secretary,