

**MINUTES OF THE  
CENTER HARBOR CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**Thursday, February 12, 2009**

The meeting convened at approximately 1:05 pm.

Attending were: Bruce Bond, Chairman; Maureen Criasia, Karin Karagozian, Harry Viens; and JoAnn Wood, Secretary. Randy Mattson represented the Board of Selectmen.

**I. The minutes of the January meeting were read and approved without correction.**

**II. The commission received updates on:**

**A. The Prime Wetlands Study.** Maureen reported that Rick Van de Poll will have just about completed the study by the time he attends the March 3 meeting

- Essentially, he has encountered little difficulty in surveying the five wetland areas
- However, he has discovered significant differences in the parameters of all five wetlands, which may require another town meeting vote of approval. This is particularly the case with the Hale Swamp.

**B. Planning Board work with the Music Festival.** (Helen Heiner was unable to attend the rescheduled meeting, but provided notes relevant to the Music Festival). The PB, with legal advice, is currently preparing an all-inclusive contract setting forth its position/requirements on such issues as landscaping, lighting, drains and runoff provisions, traffic, and noise pollution. Randy said that further recommendations were pending from the fire and police departments and from the road agent.

**C. The Energy Committee.**

- The Jordan Institute was due to conduct free audits of most town buildings the day after last week's EC meeting. The SB assumes this will be a very superficial audit and has already budgeted the several thousand dollars needed to take the exercise to the next stage
- The EC discussed other ways of engaging town folk in energy-saving opportunities – e.g., through some sort of 'energy challenge'.

**D. The Forest Project.** JoAnn got an update from Roger LaRochelle of SLCS.

- The project is moving forward and Roger discussed fundraising possibilities - e.g., soliciting local artists to contribute paintings of the view to be auctioned off. Harry volunteered to organize such an event when the time comes

- Karin, however, brought the commissioners down to earth with a thud (she being that kind of person) by asking what the benefits to the town would be in holding the easement. The commission agreed to study the matter.

### **III. The commission discussed issues of concern at town meeting – in particular:**

**A. Boat Houses.** This appears to be moot at this point. There seems to be overlapping jurisdiction between CSPA and DES

#### **B. Warrant Articles.**

- The warrant article will be number 31 on the agenda and will state that its purpose is to correct the mistake made in 1989
- The SB is recommending that the CC remain as uninvolved as possible during the runup to the vote, but that if rebuttal is required
- Someone from the commission who carries no baggage should be prepared to state the commission's position. That leaves only Harry, who nobly volunteered to fling himself into the fire.

The commission agreed to set aside a good portion of the March 3 meeting to prepare a position paper.

### **IV. Miscellaneous items.**

- Harry asked if the commission had ever considered applying for grants, citing an article he'd read on a lakes area organization that grants funding for conservation projects.
- Maureen suggested writing a piece supporting the NRI for the town website.

And with no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:40. The next meeting is scheduled for March 3, 2009 at 10am.

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnn Wood  
Secretary