

**MINUTES OF THE
CENTER HARBOR CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

April 7, 2009

The meeting convened at approximately 10am.

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

I. The minutes of the March 3 meeting were read and approved with one correction: Harry Viens requested clarification of the first bullet point under paragraph B, page 2. The revised paragraph should read: "...**one abutter, actually residing in Meredith**, has created a dump of sorts...."

Helen asked how the CC secretary differentiated between draft and approved minutes. JoAnn responded that she:

- E-mails Sheila a draft minutes within five working days of the meeting. Then, when the minutes are approved at the next scheduled CC meeting
- Makes any revisions required and emails the approved version to Robin, who posts them on the town's website.

It was agreed that henceforth, the secretary would mark the draft minutes as such so that there can be no confusion in anyone's mind.

II. The commissioners were brought up to date on on-going business

A. Helen reported on the Planning Board's meetings with the Music Festival. As of now

- Festival officials appear to have made serious efforts to comply with town concerns
- However, some issues remain to be resolved and it's generally agreed that the PB/ Compliance Officer, and/or the CC need to ensure that the MF adheres to its contract as work progresses.

B. As time was running out, Randy and Harry had little time to bring the CC up to date on the Energy Committee.

C. Maureen reviewed current permits and applications and led a discussion on how better to respond to troublesome applications.

- Applications received since our last meeting included
 - The High Haith Bridge – a done deal. The CC was notified after the fact (which has caused Moe untold anguish. Randy surmised that, as the town was the applicant, Sheila must have assumed the CC was already on board).
 - Perkins Road. The permit has been approved with stipulations
 - Center Harbor Inn. Moorings application approved
 - The Harris property on Dog Cove. Another case of the State, under the CSPA allowing less of a setback than the town requires. This appears to be a case similar to the Olsheskis
 - 117 Keewaidan Road. Application to create a vegetative buffer and crushed rock parking area.
- The CC agreed we need to establish a more formal, automatic procedure for a) receiving notification from the Town Clerk when an application is submitted and b) responding promptly to DES. At Harry's suggestion, it was agreed that
 - The CC chairman and/or his designee will automatically send a formal letter to DES stating our intention to review the application. This will give us a 40-day window
 - When a nervous-making application is received, the chairman (or his designee) will call a special meeting to review the application and, if necessary, visit the site. This will ensure that no application is held up for more than two weeks.

III. Rick Van de Poll joined the meeting to review final preparations for the Prime Wetlands study.

- Most importantly, he produced the digital maps worked up by LRPC. Amid much oohing and ahing, the commission agreed that the Center Harbor logo should appear on each map page.
- For the oversized wall map, the commission agreed that Rick should include both a (red) 100' buffer line and a (more subtle) 500' buffer line.

He also spent time taking the Commission through the various ways in which he ranks the five wetlands – e.g., by assessing such measures as functionality, ecological importance, usability. These ranking systems will be part of the documentation presented to DES and will, of course, be part of the town's permanent record.

He also identified other wetlands that merit attention, most notably

- The 'Fog Hill' bog – besides the Hale Swamp, the only other pure bog in the town

- An area off of Center Harbor Neck Road (and Mouse Road) where there is a growth of endangered wild marigold.

He agreed to conclude his report by listing out next steps the Commission should take ranging from

- Applying for further PW designation for the above wetlands areas
- Revising the town's ordinance regarding timbering to restrict timber harvesting in and around wetlands areas (he raised this issue as there is currently a bill before the State Legislature that would loosen current restrictions on timber harvesting.

IV. The Commission discussed the upcoming NRI project with Rick. As Rick is in the process of laying out how he would integrate his study with the town's Master Plan, and as he has already 'done' much of the work in the process of completing the Prime Wetlands study, the Commission voted to accept his proposal. Bruce and Rick will complete the formalities by the next meeting.

And that concluded the meeting. With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at approximately 12:45pm. The next meeting will be held Tuesday May 12.

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnn Wood