

**MINUTES OF THE
CENTER HARBOR CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

June 9, 2009

The meeting convened at 10 am.

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

I. The minutes of the May 12 meeting were read and approved.

II. On-going.

A. Helen and Harry reported on the Planning Board. Most notably, that the Maggis attended the last PB meeting and, in the face of opposition from neighbors, withdrew their application for all events-related activities not directly connected with operating their B&B. Helen believes they have beat a strategic retreat and will reapply later.

B. Randy attended the last Energy Committee meeting and said that the entire meeting was devoted to preparing an energy-audit RFP. A letter has been sent out to the Building Committee to plead LEED Standards for the new police building. Harry intends to sit in on BC meetings to try to shepherd energy-efficient changes in new and existing structures.

C. Permits/applications. Considerable time was spent discussing the Carty property. Ken Balance reported on his involvement and take on the issue:

- The Cartys had twice applied to DES to build a combination bridge/dock/pad. DES had requested additional information on the first application; the second was withdrawn
- Ken twice visited the site and found that the Cartys had not violated CSPA regulations governing tree removal. Nevertheless, he first warned and then sternly warned the Cartys that further clearing would violate DES regulations. Since then
- By some mysterious process (the Cartys deny any involvement) brush had been cut to the ground, which is in violation of CSPA. But, as no one saw the foul deed done, Ken believes there is no further action he can take.
- However, he has been in touch with DES over the matter and requests another month's grace before the CC attempts to intervene.

The Commissioners then discussed what action, if any, they could take, for example:

- Bruce will discuss the matter with Roger LaRochelle and see if SLCS can provide us with 'before' photographs of the contentious area
- The Commission will rely on the minutes to provide a clear record of the matter.
- At the end of Ken's requested one-month grace period, the Commission may wish to document its concern with DES in a formal letter.

On another issue, DES returned the town's application to rebuild the High Haith bridge, requesting additional information. As the State's response has come rather late in the day, it may prove impossible to comply in time for work to proceed this year.

D. Mug-to-Paquette name change. The SB agreed to the requested name change and will pay the \$200 cost of altering the name in the Prime Wetlands Study.

III. New Business.

A. Should the CC join the SLCS and/or other local conservation organizations? The commission concluded that at least for the present, while it is considering participating financially in a joint SLCS/LRCT project, it would be unseemly to join either organization.

B. What should be the criteria for protecting wetlands in the future? This issue will be revisited during the July meeting.

C. Karin and Bruce report on the biotoxins talk held last week at the Science Center.

D. Should the CC sponsor presentations that would encourage local efforts to eradicate invasive species? Everyone thought it a good idea but no specific actions were taken.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:50 am. The next meeting is scheduled for July 14.

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnn Wood
Secretary

