

**MINUTES OF THE
CENTER HARBOR CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

July 14, 2009

The meeting convened at 10 am.

Attending were: Bruce Bond, Chairman; Ellen Bennett, Karin Karagozian; Harry Viens, and JoAnn Wood, Secretary. Maureen Criasia struggled up from her bed of pain and staggered in at 10:30. Helen Heiner arrived late due to an earlier meeting.

Randy Mattson represented the BOS.

I. The minutes of the June meeting were read and approved. **Dates for meetings through the end of the year** were confirmed*.

II. Lisa Morin, Belknap County Conservation District

A. Handed out information on the National Bureau of Conservation Standards, which has funded many conservation-related projects, such as soil erosion control, and which might be a source of aid in the future

B. Discussed the long-standing project to drain water from the beach. Specifically, her bureau is working with the town's Works Department on the

- Picnic area (pavilion)
- Lake Street drainage

She mentioned that E.M. Heath is cooperating fully in this task.

III. On-going business.

A. Planning Board. Harry reported that all is (relatively) quiet on the PB front. The 'circuit planner' attended the last meeting to help guide the Master Plan. Lee Mattson has agreed to prepare a 'vision' statement.

B. The Energy Committee. Harry, emerging unsteadily from the last EC meeting

- Was pleased to report that on July 16, the EC will meet with the Building Committee to lay groundwork for cooperation down the road
- Suggested that the CC hand out an 'energy saving helpful hints' tip sheet to all new permit applicants. If the EC agrees to this, Harry would volunteer to take on the project.

C. Invasive plant removal and prevention.

- Randy reported that the SB had sent out RFPs for aquatic weed removal to several contractors. To date (the due date was 7/14) only one company had responded. The SB proposes contacting the other companies by telephone. If none are interested, the town will go with the one respondent, who proposes using divers rather than chemicals.
- Ellen pointed out the recent efforts of Meredith's CC to hold weed removal and prevention workshops (as reported in the Meredith News) and asks if CH should do the same. There was general agreement, although at this stage, we would probably not be able to do anything until next summer.

D. Land Acquisition Project.

- JoAnn reported on a brief conversation she had had with Roger LaRochelle, in which he said a) the project is going well and b) a letter of intent from the CHCC would be very helpful.
- On checking the NHACC Manual, the CC reaffirmed the need to hold a public hearing to explain the project. It was agreed that JoAnn would again check with Roger as to timing, etc.**
- JoAnn also handed out a stat sheet prepared by SLCS showing land held in conservation by towns within the Squam watershed area, which prompted Harry to ask how much total land within Center Harbor is currently in conservation. It was agreed that Janet Kimball do that survey for us.

IV. Permits/applications.

- The Carty application. Ken Balance has met with the Cartys since our last meeting. So far, he has nothing new to report
- The Dahl application. This went directly to DES, which has requested additional information. It appears DES is claiming that having built a boathouse, the Dahls must now consider the 25 or so feet of water let into the shoreline as the new 'shorefront'. And this led in turn to a general
- Inveighing against the ZB, which seems to be a law unto itself. However, short of staging a palace coup, there seems to be little the CC can do mitigate the current "your land, your castle" attitude prevailing among ZB members.

And, thus, sadly contemplating the end of Bruce's goodies, the members brought the meeting to a close at 12 noon.

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnn Wood, Secretary

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- Meeting Dates: 8/12; 9/8; 10/13; 11/10; 12/8. Please note that your loyal secretary will not attend the October meeting.

**Since then, the Commission has learned that a public hearing at this time would be premature as a) the sellers have not given final approval and b) the fundraising campaign needs to be put in place.