

**MINUTES OF THE
CENTER HARBOR CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

October 14, 2008

The meeting convened at 10 am.

Attending were: Bruce Bond, Chairman; Ellen Bennett; Maureen Criasia; Karin Karagozian; and JoAnn Wood, Secretary. Also attending were Randy Mattson, Alternate and SB representative; and Harry Viens, attending for the first time as potential new member.

I. The minutes of the regular, September 16, meeting and the specially called October 3 meeting were read and, with two corrections, approved:

- In the 9/16 minutes, 1st page, 1st paragraph, Jill (Hooper) was changed to Jan
- In the 10/3 minutes, 2nd page, under paragraph III, the text should be changed to read, "...LRPC maps to be supplied by the CC."

II. Updates on ongoing business.

A. Permits/applications. Only one (Olsheskie, DES #2008-020398) was received last month and no action was required of the CC. However, several points were raised:

- The Olsheskies appear to be replacing a 1000 sq. ft. structure with one of 3000 sq. ft. Yet they plan to use the same septic system, which Bruce estimates to be about 50 years old.
- Current Town regulations allow them to use the existing system unless it is in failure
- Only Meredith automatically requires a system upgrade to match the new structure.

B. Planning Board. Randy reported that the LRCT has bought the house on 25b overlooking Red Hill for its new headquarters.

C. Energy Committee. JoAnn reported on

- The EC,s light bulb replacement project scheduled for November 4, 2008 (Election Day)
- Progress in getting energy audits done on all Town buildings
- On-going efforts to educate and encourage through Public Service Announcements and the CHEC website

- The next scheduled meeting of area ECs (October 22)

D. The NRI Project. Bruce and Moe will work up RFP's for this project, drawing on a very detailed RFQ that Lebanon used.

E. Miscellaneous

- Land donations in surrounding towns. Ellen reported that Holderness has been given 105 acres over the years
- Projects that don't work. Karin asked why the town persists in trying to eradicate invasive weeds from Winnepesaukee as the effort is doomed to failure.

III. Transfer of CC fund from the trustees to the treasurer. Apparently, there was a misunderstanding as to the purpose of the October 6 meeting, at which time a public vote was to be taken to transfer the CC fund from the trustees to the treasurer. The treasurer, understanding that votes had been e-mailed in, didn't know she was to attend the meeting. Hence, no action was taken. Another meeting was scheduled for October 15.

- The SB has, since April, requested that these funds be transferred to no avail, for reasons that are unclear. Now, of course, the fund, which had made up the bulk of other earmarked town monies and had been aggressively invested, has likely decreased in value
- Harry asked why the funds couldn't be transferred in their securitized form rather than cashed out. If the former, there would be some hope down the line of the market, hence the funds, recovering some of their lost value. If the latter, the loss becomes permanent.

IV. Prime Wetlands. The letter of understanding between the CC and Rick Van de Poll has been sent to Rick. Bruce awaits the returned copy although he reported that Rick has already begun the work.

- The CC formally approved a motion authorizing Bruce to sign the returned contract
- The CC further approves a motion to pay for the study out of the 2008 budget, as recommended by the SB. (Although the CC does not have that kind of money in the '08 budget, the SB is comfortable paying for the study from funds designated for other purposes that were unused.) Bruce will submit Rick's invoices directly to Robin as they come in.

V. New Business

A. The Snake River Parcel. Bruce has asked the owners to hold back 8.5 (riverfront) acres from sale, for which the owners demand \$30,000. Meredith has already voted to appropriate \$10k and New Hampton, \$5k towards the land purchase. Bruce is also soliciting help from such non-profit organizations as LRCT.

B. The New RSA 36-A:4-a, authorizing CCs to expend funds for contributions to ‘qualified organizations’ for the purchase of property interests, etc. The NHACC held a conference, which Moe attended, explaining this RSA.

- Moe asked if we could work up another warrant article for TM ‘09
- However, Randy felt that we risked turning off the voters if we submit too many warrant articles at one time and would propose holding off on this one.

It was agreed that that we mention the possibilities this kind of State rule provides in our annual report and that we reconsider during the course of next year. It was further agreed that we need to have some sort of on-going reminder system. Harry suggested developing one through Outlook.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:45 am. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 18.

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnn Wood
Secretary