

TOWN OF BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Conservation Commission

P. O. Box 360 Brookline, NH 03033

Telephone (603) 673-8855 - Fax (603) 673-8136 Kristen@brookline.nh.us www.brookline.nh.us

Minutes Conservation Commission Tuesday June 14, 2011 7:00pm

Present: Francis (Buddy) Dougherty, Chairman (voting)

Therry Neilsen-Steinhardt, Vice-Chair, Member (voting) Tad Putney, Member Selectmen's Representative (voting)

Jay Chrystal, Member (voting) (arrived at 8:10)

Absent: Eric DiVirgilio, Alternate

In attendance for this meeting Betty Hall (Old Milford Road), Evan Gerekos (Spaulding Brook Road), and Dona Eaton (Dupaw Gould Road)

7: pm Meeting Start

Canoe Trip

Buddy said the guest of honor was Linda Holmes this year.

Inmate Service Program Canceled

Buddy said there is a letter in the mail that states the Hillsborough County Inmate Service Program was canceled due to budget cuts. The Hillsborough County Executive Committee is holding a public hearing that will be held on June 21, 2011 at 6:00pm held at the Boucheard Building, 329 Mast Road in Goffstown NH to discuss the FY'12 budget.

This program has saved the Town a lot of money and has cleaned miles of trail in town. Therry said she will write a letter to all of the papers and send one to Representative Jim Belanger from Hollis NH. Tad and Buddy listed off some of the projects they have completed to add to the letter. They painted the Town Hall, Ball field concession stands, and Legion Hall, Cleaned up all trash behind Sunoco Station, washed windows at both Town Hall and Fire Station, shoveled roofs last winter, and had done some work at the Ambulance Bay.

Possible new Member

Buddy said they have two possible new members Dona Eaton is interested in possibly being a BCC member or Alternate. This is her first meeting but she is interested in joining. Dona said she would like to sit in on a few meetings before making the final decision.

Buddy said this is Evans 4th meeting he has attended and asked Evan if he would like to be appointed as an alternate member of the BCC for now and in the future if he wishes to become a full member we can vote on that then.

Therry made a motion to recommend Evan Gerekos as an alternate member of the Brookline Conservation Commission with a term expiring March of 2012. Tad Seconded. Vote yes 3-0. Therry said Evan will be a tremendous addition to the Conservation Commission.

Hutchinson Hill Conservation Easement – Lot B-79 and D-1

Tad made a motion to authorize Francis "Buddy" Dougherty to sign the easement for lots B-79 and D-1. Therry Seconded. Vote yes 3-0.

Lake Potanipo - Milfoil

Buddy said Amy Smagula (DES) sent a message to Jay Chrystal. **Buddy** read Amy's letter, "They surveyed Potanipo today. The good news is the treatment in fall 2010 did a great job of reducing milfoil distribution and biomass, so the lake looks pretty good. As suspected, there are a couple of problem areas, namely the cove down by Camp Tevya, the mouth of the North Inlet channel, and near the marker buoys near the town beach. Re-growth was very sparse and I am hopeful that diving will be sufficient to take care of regrowth. I will have my dive staff comes down and do some work in the areas indicated with red dots on the map.

Because it's still very early in the season I think it would be wise to ask ACT to file a permit application to treat up to 20 acres of milfoil in the fall, just in case it gets out of control as the summer progresses (as we asked them to bid on in the fall). The up side of doing this is that there is a safety net for the fall if milfoil growth is good over the summer, the down side is that if you do not need to treat then you lose out on \$1250 for the cost associated with the permit application prep and certified mailings that ACT does. DES could reimburse you for up to 30% of the costs incurred for this prep work, but the balance of that would be on the town. I think it's wise to plan ahead though, especially since grant funds are available to the town this year and right now I cannot guarantee funding for next year. Can you talk to your town to see if this is feasible?

I have attached a map of my findings. It shows the points where I found milfoil, plus where I expect we'd need treatment in the fall (amounting to 11 acres with lots of room around those initial points for expansion). I think it's wise to ask for the full 20 acres in the permit app (and not include this map, but say we'll provide one before treatment), then scale back if needed based on an August pre-treatment survey (better to ask for more than less). This map just shows potential expansion based on historical growth if the areas of regrowth get out of control."

Jay said they will have to make the decision to treat but the permit will need to be started as soon as possible it is very time consuming.

Jay said they will have to have Aquatic controls start the permit process if they will be treating this fall. It is very time consuming to put that permit together.

Betty asked what chemical they will be using to treat the lake with this year. **Buddy** said they will use 2-4D. It has been proven effective and is licensed. We may not even have to treat if it is something the divers can take care of. Betty said it should be put on record that we are trying to get away from chemical treatment of milfoil in Lake Potanipo and soon only use mechanical treatments. **Tad** said the goal is to chemically treat and then in a few years hopefully the diver's hand pulling the milfoil will be the only maintenance that is needed.

Tad made a motion to authorize Jay to hire Aquatic Controls to submit a permit for a potential fall treatment to Lake Potanipo for Milfoil. Therry Seconded. Vote yes 4-0.

Jay said he will call tomorrow to get the ball rolling.

Forrest Management Plan - Craig Birch

Not all Board members have read this document through. **Buddy** asked if everyone could review before the next meeting and if they have any comments to please email Kristen so Craig can make any changes or

amendments to this document. **Buddy** asked Kristen to email Craig and let him know they will discuss at the July meeting.

Buddy Read the "Scenic Values and Recreation" Section.

"Conserving the scenic and recreational values of the Melendy Pond Conservation Area is listed as an important objective for the property. The property is typical woodland for this region, with mature forests ranging in age from 60 to 100+ year old trees in the upper canopy. Recreational use of the property consists of hunting, hiking, horseback riding, and snowmobiling. All terrain vehicles (ATV's) also use the property, mostly along the snowmobile trails that are being maintained. Most of the recreation use of the property is along the three snowmobile trails. In some cases, the homeowners in the Mountain Road subdivision have started to create their own trails to access the snowmobile trails.

Although ATV's are a form of outdoor recreation, they can be very destructive to trails if driven at excessive speeds or periods of wet ground conditions. The Brookline Conservation Commission will have to decide if they will permit ATV's or discourage them from using the property. If they are permitted, regular maintenance of the trails will be necessary to prevent erosion."

Buddy said he will get in touch with Todd from Fish and Game and have him monitor that area. **Evan** asked if they could be allowed at all on some trails. **Buddy** said he has never found a benefit in it for Brookline. **Jay** said they would need a self policing policy but they do keep the trails open but we don't have the man power to police it.

Buddy said while Craig was walking the boundary line he also found a property owner that had his land cleared and had all the stumps dumped on Town Property. Craig said this looks like it has been done somewhere in the last 3 or 4 years. **Buddy** said they will have to have the Code Enforcement officer look into getting those stumps removed.

8:50 pm Non-public

Jay moved to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3, II (d) for the purpose of possible land acquisition and adjourn the meeting immediately after. Tad Seconded. Vote yes by roll call Therry, Jay, Tad, and Buddy all voted yes.

Tad moved to come out of Non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (d) and seal the minutes and adjourn the meeting immediately after. Jay Seconded. Vote by roll call. Therry, Jay, Tad, and Buddy all voted yes.

Tad made a motion to adjourn at 9:35. Jay Seconded. Vote yes 4-0.

Francis (Buddy) Dougherty, Chairman	
Therry Neilsen-Steinhardt, Vice-Chair	
Jay Chrystal, Member	
Tad Putney Member Selectmen's Representative	

Minutes submitted by Kristen Austin Next meeting will be held on July 12, 2011