

**Town of Pelham, NH
Pelham Conservation Commission
6 Village Green
Pelham, NH 03076-3723**

MEETING OF 08/13/09

APPROVED 09/09/09

Members Present:

Paul Gagnon, Karen Mackay,
Glennie Edwards, Paul Dadak,
Lisa Loosigian

Absent: none

Chairman Paul Gagnon brought the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS:

Map 30 Lot 11-333 1 Wood Road/Webster Avenue – Request by Joe Maynard of Benchmark Engineering, Inc. to schedule a site walk

This case is represented by Joe Maynard.

The applicant was unable to attend the meeting. The proposal is to remove a dwelling, fill a small wetland and build a new home. The Commission set up a site walk of the property for Saturday, August 22, 2009. Commission members will meet Mr. Maynard at the corner of Wood Road and Webster Ave. at 8:30 a.m.

OLD BUSINESS:

Map 35 Lot 6-105 Paul DeCarolis – Off Chagnon Lane (Lot 55) – Discussion of Possible Transfer of Property

This case will be discussed in non-public because it relates to the value of the property and the possible transfer of the property to the town.

Map 41 Lot 6-118 Patel Plaza, LLC – Commercial Site Plan presented by Peter Zohdi, Edward N. Herbert Assoc., Inc.

This case is represented by Peter Zohdi of Edward N. Herbert Assoc., Inc.

Mr. Zohdi was unable to attend the meeting. The Commission set up a site walk for Saturday, August 22, 2009. Commission members will meet Mr. Zohdi at R & B Superette at 9:30 a.m.

MINUTES:

Motion: (Dadak/Loosigian) to approve the minutes of June 10, 2009

Vote: 4-0 in favor, Edwards abstained

Motion: (Loosigian/Dadak) to approve the site walk minutes of June 13, 2009.

Vote: 4-0 in favor, Edwards abstained

Motion: (Edwards/Mackay) to approve the minutes of July 8, 2009.

Vote: 3-0 in favor, Dadak and Loosigian abstained

WALK IN ITEMS:

Ms. Edwards commented on the beautiful presentation Mr. Gagnon made to the Selectmen on Tuesday night. She felt Mr. Cyr and Mr. Powers, the town foresters, added much relevant information to the presentation.

Mr. Dadak is looking into a bike trail connection between Windham and Pelham. He heard there was a trail coming into the Moeckel Pond area. The Commission has just purchased the Linton parcel adjacent to Moeckel Pond and there could be a possible extension of any bike trail from Windham into this new conservation area. Mr. Dadak will contact the Windham Planning Office and see if they can help him locate a contact person for trail development.

Ms. Mackay and Mr. Gagnon met with a couple members of NRPC to begin discussion on our Open Space Plan for Pelham. The purpose of the plan is to make corridors to connect open space in town and to connect to open space in adjacent towns. NRPC is going to do some mapping for us which will help us plan better for open space. The program is being paid for by CTAP and the route 93 widening. We would like to take advantage of these funds, while they exist, to help create additional tools for town planning. The next meeting will be on September 3, 2009 in the Police Department community room.

An Asian longhorn beetle meeting will be taking place on Tuesday, August 18, 2009 from 5:30-8:30 at the Manchester Library. The meeting will focus on identification of the beetle and the impacts the insects could have on the NH forestry industry. Another meeting will be held in Portsmouth on August 25, 2009.

The town has officially closed on the Linton parcel on Moeckel Road and the Ivers parcel on Windham Road. These two parcels have been purchased by the town for conservation land. Conservation Fund money was used so there is no tax impact for town residents.

About one year ago, the Commission voted to accept the donation of 28 acres of land from Tim Zelonis. The Selectmen have not approved this donation yet, but they are in the process of reviewing the donation. The land is of high value because it abuts the new Linton conservation parcel and a previously owned 18 acre parcel. The addition of the Zelonis acreage will create a 76 acre parcel adjacent to Golden Brook with uplands, wetlands and flood plains.

Mr. Gagnon, along with some volunteers, worked last weekend to add two bridges to the Merriam/Cutter property in order to connect the trails between the parcels. A large wetland and streams prevented trails from connecting. The volunteers moved a 16 foot bridge from the Little Island Pond Conservation Area to the Merriam/Cutter Conservation Area and built a 32 foot bridge to traverse another wet area. The 16 foot bridge was no longer needed at the Little Island Pond Area. The field on the Cutter property was cut this past weekend also. Brian Zahn cut the field for the Commission. The field habitat has added greatly to the vast expanses of forest in the area.

Mr. Dadak expressed his appreciation to the NHDOT for pumping down the wetland on the Merriam/Cutter property. The culvert had been blocked by beavers and the wetland was threatening Sherburne Road. The water depth was pumped down about 6 feet.

Our next meeting is scheduled for September 9, 2009. We anticipate the meeting will be held at Sherburne Hall.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

Motion: (Mackay/Edwards) to go into non-public to discuss land acquisitions in accordance with RSA 91-A-A:3; to seal the minutes of non-public; to adjourn after non-public

Vote: 5-0 in favor

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Mackay,
Recording Secretary