

**Strafford Conservation Commission**  
**Minutes**  
**June 2, 2008**

Present: Liz Evans Harmony Anderson Carolyn Page Al Pratt Dave Perkins

Guests: Phil Auger Dan Kern Irene Abels

### **1. Opening and Introductions**

The meeting was opened at 7:10 pm. A motion was made by Harmony and seconded by Al to accept the May 5, 2008 **minutes**. Approved. Discussion continued about posting the minutes on the town website. Carolyn had made a sample of an annotated agenda, which met with approval, but caused extra work. Harmony suggested that she just put her monthly conservation column on the website. MOTION: Harmony moved that she will post her Conservation Notes on the website. Seconded by Al. Approved by consensus.

### **2. Guest Presentations**

#### **Phil Auger, Dan Kern; new easements, current project updates:**

Phil distributed maps of the Bedford – Isinglass River Corridor area. Talked with him Phil and Dan about potential conservation buyouts of several properties abutting the Isinglass property on Pig Lane. Financial assistance will be available through the federal Wetlands Reserve Program.

MOTION: To allow Bear Paw to enter an agreement for the town to pay for a \$1,000.00 deposit for the King property contingent on the Wetlands Reserve Program's approval of purchase and then to pay for the remainder of the value based on appraisal. Moved by Dave, seconded by Harmony. Approved.

Phil then took us through the Conservation Easement Deed for the Isinglass River Property. We are to read through this and the Bedford Property Easement and get back to him or Dan if we see any “red flags” or omissions.

Pay special attention to the parking areas and let him know if you have any ideas. Do we need more than one parking area for the Isinglass property?

Phil and Harmony reminded us of the Biothon at the Isinglass Property this Saturday. The results of the four teams will be used in the management plans for the piece. There will be a walk for the general public starting at 10 o'clock. Call Dan to register – 463-9400 [info@bear-paw.org](mailto:info@bear-paw.org)

Dan told of some adjustments to the Cooper and Cournoyer properties. One survey came in a little lower, the other a little higher. Both appraisals were a little higher, but we're still close to the budget.

**DES application** none

### **3. Old Business**

**Site review reports** – none

**Logging start:** - no one has driven by to see if anything is happening.

**Certificates for easement donors:** Carolyn talked to Wolfgang Liskow who offered suitable boards. Jack was going to look for a whole dried out tree that could be sliced.

**Other:** Harmony said that she has heard from a student who was writing an essay as application to the conservation camp. He was supposed to have emailed it to Harmony, but she hasn't received it. She thinks her email may not be working properly. She will call the student to have him resubmit.

**Other:** Irene suggested that we post some of the shoreland protection rules on the website so homeowners can find them, and also have links to the source. Harmony wanted to know if, with the new laws, the town's inclusion of other named bodies of water in town will still be included under the state regulations.

Irene also suggested that we could have maps on the website of the town forests and easement areas.

#### **4. New Business**

**Conservation Fund policy:** After discussion, it was agreed that it is time to review and perhaps simplify or amend the application rules now that we have more experience with the process and given our close working relationship with Bear-Paw.

**Wetlands violation:** Phil said that there have been complaints about dredging. Harmony and Irene will check it out on Wednesday at 3:30.

**Other:** Carolyn suggested that we start thinking about forming groups or teams of town's people to become stewards of the town forests. A lot of trail work needs to be done on the Spencer Smith trail and with the acquisition of the Isinglass property we'll have a lot of work to do - more than the conservation commission can handle on it's own. It would be nice to find a model of how other towns handle the work.

#### **5. Standing Committee Reports**

**Land Protection Group** – no news

**Managed Growth Group** – will be meeting this month

**Water Quality Group** – no news

#### **7. Summary/Adjournment**

Next meeting date: July 7

7:00 pm. Town Hall

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Enz Page