



CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
Thursday, April 16, 2009, 7:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers, City Hall, Claremont, NH

Meeting Minutes
Approved 5/21/09

I. Roll Call

Present: Robert Woodman, Dianne Raymond, Dennis Osgood, Russell Fowler, Adam Burke, Stephen Powers

Absent: Stephen Wood

City Staff: Katrina Spaulding, Administrative Assistant

II. Review of Minutes

- Review minutes of February 19, 2009

Motion to: Approve Meeting minutes of February 19, 2009

Made by: Diane Raymond **Second by:** Stephen Powers **Vote:** Unanimous

III. Treasurer's Report

- 2009 Transaction history from Lisa Richmond

Motion to: Approve transaction history

Made by: Dennis Osgood **Second by:** Diane Raymond **Vote:** Unanimous

IV. New Business

- **Barry Conservation Camp** – Sponsorship, application, information

Letters will be distributed to the SAU office and then sent to all the schools. The children will get letters to take home with information.

The deadline is fast approaching for the submission of the applications to the camp. Mr. Fowler asked about approving the payment to the camps for sending the children. This had not been done up to this time. There has been a slight cost increase however the Board feels it is an important investment.

Dennis Osgood asked how the Board would go about deciding who the 4 recipients would be. Since there were only 4 applicants last year there wasn't a decision that needed to be made.

Mr. Osgood felt the applications should be date stamped and the first four will be the ones to go to camp. It will be based on a first come first served basis.

Motion to: Approve 4 applicants for Barry Conservation Camp for a total of \$1800.00

Made by: Mr. Fowler

Second by: Dianne Raymond

Vote: Unanimous

V. Communications

- **NHDES Letter of Compliance-** Rebecca Richards and Travis DeCamp, 260 North Street, Claremont. Tax Map 95 Lot 24.-
- **NHDES Approval Letter** – Landmark Capital Management LLC, Thrasher Road, Claremont. Tax Map 70 Lot 48. – The board was dissatisfied with the reading that D.E.S. apparently didn't listen to their suggestions made regarding this property.
- **Sullivan County ATV Club** – Letter from Bill Cote to Shugah Valley Snow Riders, 4/1/09

VI. Other

1. Bruce Temple spoke regarding wetlands permits that were introduced in the fall of 2008 for Route 120 and Thrasher Road, and Bible Hill Ext (Tenney Road). The wetland permits are secured for both and are under contract. This summer these projects will be done.

Mr. Woodman asked about a permit for the Pine Hill location. Mr. Temple said there will be additional wetlands permits – westerly of Red Water Brook Road the wetlands permit hadn't been applied for however the Board has written a letter of approval in the summer of 2008. Wetlands applications for the Box Culvert and Stone House Forge Culvert have also been applied for. Two permits have been received and two more are being applied for. The first two were received within 45 days of application. The Department of Environmental Service is discouraging from boxes and culverts, they want a box with an open bottom. Stone House Forge said it was ok to install an oversized pipe and filled halfway with gravel.

The money for the projects is being taken from FEMA funds and is funding 75% and the State is providing 12 ½%. The City will be responsible for the other 12 ½%. There is a third project that FEMA has approved for the new Pleasant Valley Estates Pump station on Clay Hill Road. The head wall is failing and the inside pipe is rusted and needs to be repaired. The solution will be an open bottom box culvert which is costly. There needs to be a footing down below the frost level of the stream. The State required these procedures be implemented.

2. Bill Cote, President from the Sullivan County ATV Club wanted to discuss the rail trail and repair necessary to maintain the trail. The trail from a portion in front of the VIP area to the trestle and back to the Middle School needs to be repaired. The trail needs drainage and rock or stone to bring the trail up to get the water to drain. There are a lot of potholes in the trail. Bill Cote said he had yorck raked most of the trail. He feels the trail needs some fill. He has figured the club will need at least 10 loads of stay pack and then about 14 loads of 2" rock. This has been priced out through St. Pierre Inc.

Mr. Woodman feels the trail should be leveled and ditched. Diane Raymond mentioned there was grant money that could be used for this purpose as well.

There is another section of trail on Chestnut Street that is washing away. This section is towards the RR bridge and the other side of the trail is washed away and getting increasing worse.

Bill Cote said Trail Patrol begins on May 3rd .

To maintain dust control the club purchases approximately 100 bags of calcium chloride \$16.00 per bag. This is spread along Washington Street to help control the dust. Mr. Woodman thinks rather than hardpack the club should look into recycled asphalt. The Board wondered if this could be placed on the trail. It is unclear if this would be environmentally acceptable.

Rusty Fowler asked if this will be required every year. Bill Cote said it would depend on the wear of the trail. Dianne Raymond, trail administrator of Sullivan County ATV doesn't believe there has been any big maintenance for at least 4-5 yrs. If this project is done it would last almost another 3-4 years. In following years it would just need to be maintained. This is used by everyone, walkers, bikers, snowmobiles, ATV's.

Rusty asked for a total figure and if there would be somebody help spread it out and do the job. Bill Cote said the club will put together a work party (usually 10-30 people) with a tractor and a yolk rake and complete the job. Mr. Woodman said the base needs to be shaped and ditching both sides of the trail will help.

Dianne said the grant could be applied for and is approved with the state of NH and reimbursed 100%. There isn't any cost for the grant however the club needs permission from the Conservation Commission to do the work. The plan would be to ditch the trail first and then put the rock on top for phase two.

Bill Cote would like to have the request and approval put on the record to do the project and then look for approval for the funding.

Mr. Woodman said he would recommend making sure it was agreeable with the City Manager prior to doing any work.

Motion to: Proceed to level and ditch the trail

Made by: Rusty Fowler **Second:** Stephen Powers **Vote:** Unanimous

3. Steve Woodman with son Tyler addressed the Board to express their interest in going to Conservation Camp. Tyler attended last summer and had a great time. This year he would like to go to camp and wants to take Hunter Safety.

Motion to: Adjourn

Made by: Dennis Osgood **Second:** Dianne Raymond **Vote:** Unanimous

Meeting Adjourned at: 8:00 pm
Respectfully Submitted By,

Katrina Spaulding
Administrative Assistant