

**Minutes of the Peterborough Conservation Commission Meeting  
July 17, 2010, Peterborough Town House, 7 p.m.**

Present: John Kerrick, Matt Lundsted, Susan Stanbury, Francie Von Mertens

**Elm Street parcel**

Francie Von Mertens reported meeting Swift Corwin on the Elm Street lot to discuss clearing invasive buckthorn on the level, non-wetland area to bring it back to mowable condition. Corwin estimated two people working two days could do the job.

Matt Lundsted said a scope of work statement is needed from Corwin. Beyond a certain scope, the town requires a competitive bid process.

Insurance and indemnification must also be confirmed.

Von Mertens reported Rodney Bartlett's offer of a DPW crew to mow the parcel annually after it's cleared.

**Wheeler, Babine and Lowe parcels**

In Bryn Dumas's absence, Von Mertens reminded members there is a workgang on the access to the WB&L town-owned parcels planned for August 14. Dumas will be contacting members and other logical volunteers about the time, place and other relevant details.

**Open Space Map**

The draft/updated Open Space map was handed out. The only question was on a property line drawn through Cranberry Meadow Pond.

**Conservation Easements**

Stanbury is familiarizing herself with the 21 conservation easements monitored by the Conservation Commission and the town's responsibility for the easements it holds. Von Mertens will notify the volunteer monitors that Stanbury will be coordinating the annual monitoring process. Further documentation is required for one easement, but the other baseline folders appear to be in order.

**Wetlands ordinance amendments**

Von Mertens expressed frustration over the Planning Board public hearing process whereby people state their opposition without response or rebuttal. As a public hearing, the public is heard, but misstatement or misunderstanding seldom are addressed. As further concern, the local paper often quotes those in opposition without offering counter information or requesting clarifying information from the Planning Board.

Matt Lundsted will bring the ConCom's recommendation to the Planning Board and its Wetlands Working Group that a FAQ sheet be drawn up that gives the relevant information. For instance, in response to the often repeated statement at public hearings that the current wetlands ordinance is doing "a good job," explain what its deficiencies are. This information has been given at public hearings in the form of a FAQ sheet, but it needs to be handed out each time, and perhaps added to in order to address other recurring statements.

John Kerrick said the case for needed change always must be in the forefront, with a look to future conditions, and then the steps needed to get there clearly spelled out.

Also important to communicate is the diversity and credentials of the WWG members.

The next public hearing is July 26.

### **Minutes**

June's minutes were approved (Susan Stanbury and John Kerrick were sworn by Town Clerk in during the meeting to complete the required quorum).

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be the **third Thursday of August, the 19<sup>th</sup>**.

/fvm