

# Tamworth Conservation Commission

## Tamworth, New Hampshire

DRAFT MINUTES: MEETING - NOVEMBER 14, 1994

Present: John Mersfelder, Chris Conrod, Lori Gerard, Ned Beecher, Charlie Townsend

1. The minutes from the meeting of October 10, 1994 were approved as written, except for a correction of the meeting date from "September 10, 1994" to "October 10, 1994."

2. John opened the meeting with a note about Peg King's condition; she is still at Mary Hitchcock in Hanover. Her condition seems serious.

3. **Hemenway Special Use Permit.** John read excerpts from the agreement between the Conservation Commission and the State, which contains no changes from past agreements. He signed the official documents.

4. **Easements.** John read a letter from the Society for the Protection of NH Forests requesting information about timber harvest practices in town easements. The wording in our local easements regarding timber harvests varies, but most common is the requirement for following "Best Management Practices," Chris reported. John is sending this reply to SPNHF.

5. **Valentine Subdivision.** Chris gave a report on his involvement in the final review of the delineation of wetlands at this Pease Hill Road subdivision. Paul King had hired Mary Gospodarek to delineate the wetlands before the Planning Board's on-site inspection. Ed Flaccus had hired Peter Cooperdock to review the delineation as well. At the on-site inspection, Paul King presented a survey plan of Mary Gospodarek's delineation of Hydric A and B soils, and, with that information clearly presented, and no strong statement from any other party questioning the delineation as shown, Chris stated that the proposed septic design seemed to be in compliance with the town's wetland ordinance. The Planning Board then approved the plan.

Ed Flaccus, present at this Commission meeting, then voiced his concerns that 1) the decision of the Planning Board had been quick to follow the presentation of the wetland delineation plan, and did not allow much time to comment on the wetland delineation plan; and 2) the Hydric B soils shown in the southeast area of the plan may include some Hydric A--it is an area explained as rutted by machinery in the past.

It was noted that the approval was a done deal, and discussion was moved forward to consideration of whether or not the Commission, on behalf of the town, should take an interest in the purchase and/or protection of this Mill Brook property.

Chris reviewed his discussions with Ed Flaccus concerning purchase of the parcel. It is listed at \$25,000. Chris has received an assurance from Tom Howe of the Lakes Region Conservation Trust (LRCT) that they would probably be interested in protecting the Valentine subdivisious parcel, in part due to its contiguity with the another of their properties across Pease Hill Road. LRCT could serve as a non-profit repository for tax-deductible donations toward the purchase of the parcel, but LRCT would insist on a fee of approximately \$5,000 for future stewardship. Discussion centered on 1) whether interest could be generated locally for purchasing this parcel, and 2) in what capacity the Commission should support the effort. It was agreed that the Commission would be glad to support an effort that was led by private citizens, especially because of the Commission's long-standing commitment to the protection of Mill Brook. The Commission offered Mr. Flaccus support in emphasizing the importance of the parcel in terms of Mill Brook's protection, e.g. the lot is currently under development pressure (a criteria used

by the LCIP program to determine the value of protection efforts), it contains Mill Brook, and it would be the site of one of the closest houses to the Brook. Mr. Flaccus said he would explore the depth of interest of private parties and report back to the Commission.

6. **Expedited Minimum Impact.** John mentioned a Wednesday evening meeting in Wolfeboro concerning this new process. Chris said he would attend. There may also be one such meeting in Ashland on Dec. 6. Charlie may investigate and attend.

7. **Scenic Roads Violation/Complaint.** The Commission received a complaint about seeming violations of the Scenic Roads Ordinance along Great Hill Road. The first is just west of the Hemenway 4-corners, and involves the destruction of stone wall by the town road crew. The second involves the breach of stone wall further west on the road by a timber harvest operation. The RSA states that "any repair...shall not involve...destruction of walls" without the permission of the Selectmen. Therefore, it seems that the work by the road crew may be in violation, and John said he would bring the matter to the attention of the Selectmen at this week's meeting. The breach of the stone wall by the logging crew does not seem to violate the Scenic Roads RSA, as the breach was made in order to access a piece of private property.

8. **NHACC Annual Meeting.** Due to a shortness of time, Charlie gave only an abbreviated report on the annual meeting. A fuller report will be given next month.

9. **Tin Mountain Camp Scholarship.** John read a letter from Tin Mountain requesting continued scholarship support for the 1995 camps. This will be considered at budgeting time.

THESE DRAFT MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO FINAL APPROVAL AT THE NEXT COMMISSION MEETING ON DECEMBER 12, 1994.

--- Ned Beecher