

**TOWN OF CHESTERFIELD
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 25, 2013**

Present: Kathy Thatcher, Chairman; Tom Duston, Lynne Borofsky, Pam Walton, Jon McKeon, Selectboard Representative; and Amy LaFontaine, Secretary

1). Mail –

- A). There was information regarding the CT River
- B). A letter from Brickstone Masons regarding the Donahue property.

2). There is a statement in the February 25th minutes “The Spofford Lake Association would like the Town to be the owner of the boat landing”. The statement is incorrect. Jeff moved to approve the February 25th minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Lynne and passed unanimously.

3). Grants, Events –

- A). The event was successful. It was a 3 hour hike from the Dort Property to the Kilburn Trail Head. Laurel Powell was present to give a history of the ruins.
- B). Tom & Lynne have been in contact with the Selectmen regarding a kiosk.
- C). Tom discussed that there is a lot in Hinsdale for sale next to the where the trail comes down for the Monadnock-Wantastiquet Trail. The Conservation Fund can't be used for this purchase since the property is in Hinsdale.

4). Spofford Lake –

- A). Jeff Littleton has submitted a bill for work for \$425. ½ has been paid by the Spofford Lake Association and ½ has been paid by the Town.
- B). There is not an official statement from the Spofford Lake Association that it would like the Town to be the owner of the boat landing.

5). Website – The cost is \$21.50 per month or \$258 per year. Lynne asked about forming a subcommittee to look at the content of the website. She stated that the site is outdated and difficult to use. Lynne, Amy, Jeff and possibly Pam will form a subcommittee. Meeting Tuesday April 9th at 5:30 PM.

6). Trail Development & Land Projects – Trail from Brattleboro to Pisgah and Pisgah to Keene. A Possible hiking route through Pisgah was discussed.

7). Selectmen –

- A). Economic Development Committee – new committee to discuss undeveloped Commercial properties in Town and the possibility of combining resources.
- B). Insurance does cover everyone as long as they sign on as Volunteers. Individuals must sign up at each project.

8). Public Comment –

A). John Caveney asked about notes and field reports for the Spofford Lake NRI. He asked where it would be stored. Someone might want to review the notes in the future. The Town paid for the NRI. The town requested that they not be given the field notes primarily for the protection of private landowners. Once the notes are released all the information is available to anyone.

B). The invasive species publication was paid for by a grant.

C). The Contribution to the fund for the penalty for Land use change was \$13,350. The Fund has never been used for planking in Hinsdale.

D). Ruth stated that as a property owner she did not vote for the taxmoney to be spent out of the fund other than for acquisition of land.

E). Ruth suggested the Commission have literature at Ware's Grove.

F). Ruth reported that Margaret Halpert was proposing a new website to the Selectboard. Emergency Management has joined with the PD website because of speed of notification.

G). Tom stated that he did not believe legal action would ever fall under an approved use for the Conservation Fund.

H). Ruth asked for a copy of the Conservation e-mail list? Tom stated that he could put her on the list.

Other – Pam asked about the continuation of damage from bike riding in Friedsam Forest. If no one comes forward the Commission will probably post the forest against bikers.

Adjournment – The next meeting will be April 22nd. Jeff will be the Chair. The meeting adjourned at 8:54 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy LaFontaine
Secretary

Approved:

Kathy Thatcher
Chairman

Date: _____