

Amherst Conservation Commission Minutes

Amherst Town Hall –August 14, 2011

Meeting called to order at 7:10 PM by Jim Bowen

Attendance: Jim Bowen, Bill Wichman, Rich Hart, Jack Gleason, Anne Krantz, Alternates Bruce Beckley, Daryl DeAngelo. Bruce designated to vote for John

Minutes: Minutes from July approved as corrected. Jack noted that in the Bedford meeting minutes attached to the ACC minutes, that he was *invited* to speak the Bedford committee about field maintenance which is how the situation ‘was brought to their attention.’ He did not ask to attend, as implied in their minutes.

Treasurer – Bill explained that he used an incorrect interest rate calculation and has overstated our land account by about \$200:

Land	\$301,984.84
Gift	\$10,153.17
Trail Grant	210.12 (including private contributions)

He anticipates a Current Use deposit from the Michachunk Passage development of about \$43,000

Planning Board – Rich

Lot 6-100 on Baboosic Lake Rd WRMP for the subdivision was approved
Suitability hearing for the Limbo Lane affordable housing proposal – No decision as the PB was upset about the extensive tree clearing, and other concerns.

Guest Tom Sikoloski, wetlands scientist with Schauer Environmental Consultants, Loudon, NH, 789-4355, representing Russ Goldman developer of the Pulpit Rd development in Amherst/ Bedford; Lot 11-16. The developer is seeking ACC letter of support for the Wetland Permit for driveway culverts as the 8 lots have wetlands in both the front yards and rear. Bill moves that ACC take no position, Jack 2nd, passed. Brief mention of moving the trail to go along the brook.

Guest Perry Day, Amherst DPW to discuss coordinating Invasive Plant control measures along roadsides. The ACC list of Japanese knotweed sites to be treated by Lee was compared to the Town list – the town will treat #5 along both sides of Spring Rd. See attached ACC list. Perry expects to treat the sites the Town did last year again this Sept. to kill the remaining sprouts. He was pleased with the treatment results.

Asked about loosestrife, he pointed out that most of these outbreaks are on private property. Discussion of the need to do a town-wide survey of roadside invasives – unless \$\$ is found- no point. Overwhelming outbreaks of bittersweet and autumn olive all over town.

Correspondence:

Tree Farmer Day, Oct 1

Approval from DES for a Shoreland Impact Permit for Lot 8-57 the Labelle Winery, for detention pond, swales and a well

DES permits for culvert maintenance on Lyndeborough Rd

Lot6-100 lot line change at Basket Barn

Lot 8-3-1 Gertrude Wilson on 101 for a non-resident site permit – ACC – No comment

101 A plans to rebuild the burned Amherst Plaza – No ACC issues

Arnold Timber Harvest – Bill

Loggers is cutting substantial number of trees, and the Bi-Centennial trail has been lost. Bill is concerned about the trees marked on the fragile sand eskers. Bill will call Matt Arnold to learn if they plan to clear the trail.

Meadows – Jack

Lee and Jack inspected Bragdon north to assess the follow-up required after the invasive spray program of last fall, and the need for control along the east edge of Upper Bragdon, the hayfield. Although the spraying was very successful, a follow-up treatment is needed to kill some huge bittersweet vines and sprouts and clear the remaining edge. Jack will get bids for the follow-up treatment from both Jeff Taylor of Vegetative Control, who did the initial treatment, and Lee Gilman. Jack mentioned that there are huge bittersweet vines covering the autumn olive on the old ski slope.

Jack asked for clarification about whether he should or can remove the young trees and brush when Mike brush hogs the section of the Joppa field that is in Bedford. He was advised to call Karen Elmer in Bedford.

Round Table

Bruce moved to go into Executive Session to discuss land matters. Bill 2nd, passed 8:40 it was moved an 2nd to return to the regular meeting.

No other Round Table items.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:45

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Krantz, Secretary