Minutes, Atkinson Conservation Commission January 4, 2010 Atkinson Town Hall

Call To Order by Chairman Tim Dziechowski at 7:34

Attending:

Tim Dziechowski Dan Kimball Scott Kukshtel Denise Legault Pete McVay Michelle Veasey Paul Wainwright

Guest Business and Plan Reviews:

George and Lynn Kutzelman, replanting maple trees on Maple Ave. They have been residents of Maple Ave since 1952, and have oral history and personal knowledge of the changes dating back to the 1890s. The trees are disappearing due to age and other factors, and they would like to reestablish the maples with the help of the town, neighbors, and the Conservation Commission. Their purpose for attending the Conservation meeting was to present their ideas and to see if there were any legal or procedural restrictions before proceeding in detail. Through discussion, the Conservation Commission members agreed that this is a project that the Commission and the town can support, and there might also be some conservation funding available for support. It was suggested that each property owner be contacted. The Kutzelmans will be developing more detailed plans and contact the landowners along Maple Ave for possible support.

David Miller, Scout project on Sawyer parcel, deferred

Internal Business

Membership renewals, Dan, Denise, renewed for three years, Michelle and Paul, renewed for one year.

Treasurer's report - end of 2009 expenses \$5,551 of \$6,000 budget. The Commission's proposed 2010 budget is the same as the 2009 budget.

Secretary report - Review/approve minutes: deferred pending online review by commission.

Conservation section of town report, due Friday 1/8/10. Tim asked everyone to email Tim if there are any items to include in the report.

Other Dredge and Fills / Site Walks / Complaints

Paintball forts on Caroline Orr conservation land due west of field, also extensive fireworks debris in field. The state has been asking for the monitor report on this land.

Southeast passage site walk with Tracie Hines of Essex County Greenbelt Association, deferred into January. Tracie would like their acquisitions committee to take over landowner negotiations. Tim will let the committee know of a date once confirmed.

Unpermitted wetlands fill 21 Amberwood Drive, file complaint

Widowmaker trees on conservation easement next to Paul Antkowiak, 21 Woodlawn Ave. Selectmen may have road agent (tree warden) cut trees.

Review of Correspondence

Planning Board Agenda Items:

CTAP grant for master plan natural resources inventory, Michelle. Julie said that Phil has not responded, and recommended that the commission go forward with their plans. Budget Committee cut master plan funding from the Planning Board budget, so this grant is the only source of funding. An NRI including water resource data is a prerequisite for municipal water withdrawal ordinances.

Small wind turbine zoning ordinance scheduled for public hearing, recommended for ballot by the Planning Board.

Add East and West Sawmill Swamp and Hovey Meadow Wetland to prime wetlands, recommended for ballot by the Planning Board.

Energy section of master plan, recommended for ballot by the Planning Board.

Three petition warrant articles, public hearings Tuesday 1/5/10:

- 1. Meter public utility water pipeline flow in and out of Atkinson
- 2. Change prime wetlands setback from 100' to 150'
- 3. Make East, West Sawmill Swamp, Wright Farm Pond prime wetlands

Zoning Board Agenda items:

Zedalis application for variance for construction in prime wetlands buffer zone 64' from edge of wetlands, Map 10 Lot 5, East Road, continued

Osborn, Map 22 Lot 47, 8 Valcat Lane, appeal for variance to variance to allow keeping bunkhouse. Must reapply.

Shawn Meuse for Robert Allen, Map 16 Lot 32, 9 Emery Drive, variance to keep concrete slab under fabric structure 12' from wetlands. Continued.

Peter Ashford, setback and wetlands variance for shed at 5 Leroy Ave.

Other Business

2009 Prime Wetlands now fully digitized at DES. Do some adjustment of the map to make sure special zones are included in the final map.

Sumner doing title search on Map 20 Lot 13-1 (Stickney Lot on waterfront)

Sawyer Forestry Report and contract for winter work. Need the final forestry report and schedule the land surveying and work.

Preliminary DES visit with Jim Gove to explore town beach options.

HAWC large scale water withdrawal approved by DES, appeal options: (1) appeal to the Water Council for evidence of non-impact on Stewart Farm Pond, (2) water quality testing for potability.

The next meeting of the Commission will be Monday, February 1st, at 7:30.

The meeting adjourned at 9:02.

Respectfully submitted,

Pete McVay