

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 2007**

COMMISSIONERS: Chamberlain, McIlroy, Morris (recorder), Reeve (chair), Menton (late), White (late); Smith (staff)

FOR THE TOWN: Baschnagel

GUESTS: R. Shuey (Gove Environmental Services); C. Renshaw, F. Magilligan (Mink Brook Water Quality Studies); Barbara McIlroy

Dartmouth Steam Tunnel

1. Dartmouth is asking for a Special Exception to install a steam tunnel and cooling pipes within a wetland buffer area, under existing pavement. Eventually it will become part of an extended loop system.

Motion: to send a letter in support and without comment to the ZBA. Reeve moved, Morris seconded. Passed unanimously.

Mink Brook Water Quality Reports

2. Carl Renshaw (Dartmouth) cited the following:

- * Daily rainfall records have been kept since the late 1800s
- * The June 2004 rain (2") would indicate a 1 year/24-hour storm, but as the rain all fell within 1 hour, it was equivalent to a 25-50 year/24 hour storm
- * In May 2006, 2.5" fell in 24 hours (7 year/24 hour storm)
- * Mink Brook discharge in the June 2004 storm was equivalent to a 25 year/24 hour storm
- * Mink Brook discharge in the May 2006 storm was equivalent to a 6.5 year/24 hour storm
- * Conclusion: Mink Brook headwaters are well buffered for accepting discharge. Development is highly concentrated, and there is only a small amount of pavement.

3. Frank Magilligan (Dartmouth geomorphologist) said that:

- * Data for characterization of stream flow exists back to 1914 for New England, with records for Mink Brook from 1960 to 1998, when the USGS gauge on Ruddsboro Road was discontinued.
 - * Existing data provides a baseline against which effects of future upstream development could be measured.
 - * USGS is amenable to reinstating gauges at a cost of \$13,000 to install, and maintenance at \$13,000/year.
 - * A second gauge where Mink Brook passes under Route 120 would be helpful for measuring future effects.
- Magilligan will provide information about gauge installation to Vicki.

Fildes/Quinton Minimum Impact Expedited Application

4. Motion: to authorize Reeve to sign the application to NH DES. Reeve moved, Mayor seconded. Passed unanimously.

Staging Area for Pump Station Upgrade Near Mink Brook

5. National Grid will take two summers to set up its staging area by the substation.

Drainage Analysis Review

6. B. McIlroy submitted a 3-page recommendation and supporting material suggesting the need for such reviews, to include: output from a computer model for runoff from various design storms, and estimates of pre- and post-construction impacts, to estimate impact of proposed developments on the watersheds in which they would lie. This proposal should go onto the discussion list for the Planning Board's wetlands committee.

Workshop on stormwater management in the Route 120 corridor

7. B. McIlroy is proposing a second workshop for professionals and municipal staff and board members, with timing appropriate because of the planning for the Route 120 corridor and Rivercrest. A committee comprised of Barbara, Joanna Whitcomb and Jonathan was suggested.

Motion: to encourage Barbara to pursue an education workshop on new and innovative techniques for stormwater management. Chamberlain moved, Morris seconded. Passed unanimously.

Creating a public trail on Wardrobe Road

8. The commission supports further exploration by interested individuals of applying to the 2008 town Meeting to change Wardrobe Road from a Class VI road into a public trail.

Indian Ridge

9. Most of the trailhead easement for parking will be eradicated by the entrance planned for the Gile Tract development.

Motion: to authorize Doug McIlroy to negotiate acquisition of two small compensatory easements. Reeve moved, Chamberlain seconded. Passed unanimously.

Open Space Committee Report

10. A landowner on Dogford Road is negotiating with the Upper Valley Land Trust for a conservation easement on approximately 200 acres, with one reserved house site. The owner is requesting financial support of \$21,100. The Hanover Conservation Council has voted to provide up to \$10,000 of that amount. The Open Space Committee recommends that the balance, up to \$12,000, be provided from the Conservation Fund.

Motion: that the Conservation Commission approve up to \$12,000 from the Conservation Fund in support of this project. Moved by Mayor, seconded by Chamberlain. Passed unanimously.

11. Letters will be sent to landowners on the east side of Moose Mountain asking if they are interested in establishing land protection on their parcels to help connect up some large conserved pieces as part of a memorial forest extending into Lyme.

Meeting Minutes

12. Minutes of the February 21 and March 15 meetings were approved.

Other Business

13. Reeve will contact the Goose Pond Association for a clearer explanation of the Lake Host Program for control of milfoil.

Motion: to adjourn (7:55) Moved by Mayor, seconded by Morris. Passed unanimously.

Anne Morris