

BROOKFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

August 5, 2009 Meeting

Present: Sang Curtis, Chairperson; John Nelson, Vice Chairperson; Ernie Brown, Selectman Rep, Tom Giguere, Dulcie Lavender, Tom Hill; alternate, Jennifer McKown; alternate.

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM.

2. Public Comment:

A. Dick Peckham provided the committee with a Shoreline Protection Act update which he received at a presentation by the state Department of Environmental Services. The presenter stated that enforcement relied heavily upon the "Honor System". The DES would normally only take action when a neighbor or town official reported a violation.

B. A request was made to expedite the posting of meeting minutes. Tom made a motion that minutes be approved via email and posted on the town website. Dulce seconded and the **motion passed**. Paper copies will be signed and filed at the subsequent meeting.

3. Review of July 1st Minutes:

Under "New Business", a new paragraph was started at "Timber Use Regulations". John then made a motion to accept the minutes as amended, Ernie seconded and the **motion passed**.

4. Mail:

A. The Local Government Center will be conducting a lecture covering a variety of Land Use Laws in Milton on August 18th.

B. Two "Intent to Cut" forms submitted by Mrs. Walpole were reviewed.

5. Old Business:

A. Moose Mountain. In response to the inquiry that Dave Towle mentioned that the permit had come through from the state about a pond at Moose Mountain Recreation Area for snow making, Sang read an email from Mr. Bourdeau which "We are working on the permit but no permit yet."

B. Natural Resources Inventory (NRI) Update: The document is complete. **Sang** will draft a cover letter to the Planning Board requesting inclusion in the Master Plan. **Tom Hill** will present this packet to the Planning Board at their August 10th meeting.

C. Old Home Day Hikes: Sang displayed "Hiking Guides" she produced for the three hikes being led by the Conservation Commission. **Jen** will review the guides. **John** will make the guides available at the Town Breakfast and make announcements about the hikes to those present. Tom Giguere read portions of State RSAs 212:34, 216-F:3, and

508:14-I (concerning landowner liability when members of the public use private land) which indicated that the proposed hikes pose no risk to landowners. Sang said she would contact Gerard Langelier, owner of the property crossed by Tumbledown Dick trail, and to obtain his approval for that hike.

D. Timber Use Regulations. Ernie distributed information packets produced by County Forester, Wendy Scribner which contained a list of licensed foresters and applicable laws/rules for timber cutting in Brookfield. These will be used to educate residents interested in harvesting timber.

E. Meetings: **Tom Hill** will attend Planning Board meeting on August 10. **Dulce** will attend the Selectman's meeting on August 11th and 25th. **John** will attend the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting on August 13th.

F. Report from Planning Board Recreational Subcommittee. Jen stated that there is still work to do, but so far the subcommittee has produced a list of Possible Activities and Events which could potentially be held in the Recreational Zone. As a sampling of town opinion, a vote was taken for each activity and event to determine if it should be permitted, prohibited, or be conditional. Ernie felt the information would be very helpful as the town works to establish regulations for the zone.

6. New Business:

A. Wetlands monitoring. Speaking for the Selectmen, Ernie proposed that the Conservation Commission accept responsibility for monitoring the town's wetlands. This new responsibility would primarily involve reviewing "Intent to Cut" applications for the presence of wetlands. If so, the property owner would be informed to submit a "Notification of Forest Management or Timber Harvest Activities Having Minimum Wetlands Impact" form to the DES. **All commission members** will review the information packet supplied by Ernie in preparation for discussion next meeting.

B. Town owned parcel. Sang led discussion of a 7-acre parcel owned by the town north of Clark Rd. The parcel is reported to contain wetlands and accessed by a 2-mile hike north on the railroad track. Options include selling/transferring the land to abutter, Mr. Gallagher or requesting the Selectmen put the land into conservation. **Sang and Jen** will hike to the parcel and discuss next meeting.

7. Report from Selectmen. Eddie Nason has been designated Timber Monitor.

8. Report from Planning Board. Laura Spector is the new PB attorney.

9. Next Meeting. September 2, 2009 6:00 PM.

John made a motion to adjourn, Ernie seconded, and motion passed. Adjourned 7:57 PM.