

**Hamilton Conservation Commission
Minutes of Meeting of Nov. 2, 2011
Meeting held at Hamilton Town Hall**

Commissioners present:

Robert Cronin, Keith Glidden, Richard Luongo (chair), George Tarr

Staff present:

Jim Hankin, Conservation Coordinator

Others present for all or a portion of the meeting included:

Ken Whittaker, Hamilton-Wenham Open Land Trust

Craig Roller, Bittersweet Lane, Hamilton

Stacey Carpenter, Crescent Street, Hamilton

The Commission is scheduled to meet at 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 16 and Dec. 14, 2011 at Hamilton Town Hall. Site walk is scheduled for Sat. Dec. 10.

Richard Luongo opened the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Conservation Coordinator Jim Hankin noted that prior to this meeting, members received copies of documents about the proposed Conservation Restriction for Donovan Fields, off Sagamore St. He said a Notice of Intent received on the day of this meeting that proposes the razing and reconstruction of a house at 21 North St. will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Discussion

Ken Whittaker of the Hamilton Wenham Open Land Trust (HWOLT) asked the Commission to issue a municipal certification of the proposed Conservation Restriction on that property, which he said includes athletic fields plus 46 acres with walking trails. He said the selectmen signed the Conservation Restriction, which will be submitted for state approval; the municipal certification would satisfy Town requirements. Conservation Coordinator Jim Hankin said the municipal certification would state that the Commission is satisfied the land is appropriate for conservation purposes. He read the text aloud as follows:

"We, the undersigned Conservation Commission of the Town of Hamilton, hereby certify that the proposed Conservation Restriction is in the public interest in that:

- *The Premises is a combination of playing fields and upland forest and wetlands;*
- *The wetlands and forested portion of the Premises will remain in its current natural and undeveloped state; while the community will maintain its ability to access and use the playing fields portion of the Premises;*
- *The natural watercourses, soils, water supplies and the wildlife on the wetlands and forested portion of Premises shall be preserved and protected;*
- *Pre-existing trails on the Premises shall be maintained and shall be accessible to the public;*
- *A diversity of wildlife habitat will be preserved and natural scenic value of the Premises shall be maintained;*
- *The protection of the Premises will advance Goal 1 of Hamilton's 2006 Open space and recreation Plan, "Preserve and Enhance Open Space and Scenic Qualities"; Goal 2 "Protect Water resources"; and Goal 3 "Protect Wildlife Habitat". "*

Robert Cronin made a motion for the Commission to approve the municipal certification. George Tarr seconded the motion. VOTE: 3-0-1. (Keith Glidden abstained because is a member of the HWOLT).

Commissioners signed the certification.

Extension of Permit under the By law

122 Gregory Island Road

William Thedford applicant

Project not begun; scheduled to start Spring 2012. DEP file #172-0539, recorded Book 29985 page 345, 11/22/2010

Conservation Coordinator Jim Hankin said the former owners of 122 Gregory Island Rd. obtained permits to update their septic system after the existing system failed Title V inspection, but transferred the property before the work took place. The new owners, who do not plan to move into the house until spring 2012, want to wait until spring to have the work done, and have requested an extension of the local permit. The state permit is good through 2013.

Keith Glidden made a motion for the Commission to extend the permit under the By law. Robert Cronin seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

The Committee briefly discussed a Town Meeting warrant article related to the Conservation Fund. Mr. Hankin explained that at the May 2011 Town Meeting, voters approved the transfer into the Conservation Fund of \$2,000 of the interest earned on the Clark Fund. However, that fund only earned \$796. The upcoming warrant article would correct this bookkeeping error.

Robert Cronin made a motion for the Commission to approve the minutes of the meeting of Oct. 19, 2011. Keith Glidden seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Two citizens interested in joining the Commission made brief statements about their backgrounds and areas of interest.

Craig Roller spoke of his extensive background with federal and state environmental requirements due to his work for Gorton's, where he is Director of Quality and Regulatory Affairs. He said as a fly fisherman he has long been disturbed by water pollution.

Stacey Carpenter described her work as a wetland scientist and wildlife biologist. There was brief discussion of whether her association with wetland consulting firms might require her to recuse herself from consideration of some filings.

Mr. Cronin made a motion for the Commission to adjourn at 8 p.m. Mr. Glidden seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Minutes submitted Nov. 4, 2011 by Ann Sierks Smith