

RAYMOND CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES OF 02/06/08 –APPROVED

Vice Chairman, Jonathan Wood called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Members present: Jonathan Wood, Cody Cramer, Mike Kappler, Leslie O' Donnell, Janis Kent, Cari Boothby. Members absent: Chariman, Cheryl Killam and Frank Bishop

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mike Kappler made a motion to accept the minutes of 1-16-08 as written. Leslie O'Donnell seconded the motion. Cody Cramer and Jan Kent abstained. Minutes accepted as drafted.

MOTION PASSED.

NEW BUSINESS

Joint meeting with RBEDC on February 21, 2008 to discuss Flint Hill

Jonathan Wood said the meeting with RBEDC (Raymond Business and Economic Development Council) would be at 6pm here at the High School. RBEDC stated that for their personal reasons the RBEDC does not want to meet with the Conservation Commission prior to Deliberative Session.

OLD BUSINESS

Town of Raymond, Wetland Dredge & Fill Application for Brownfields Site (Map 28-3, Lot 120)

Jonathan Wood made reference to the letter that Chairman, Cheryl Killam composed to NH DES (New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services) on 1/17/08. The letter states that the Raymond Conservation Commission has discussed the Dredge & Fill application and is in full support of dredging and consolidating these ponds as they are extremely low quality wetlands. (A copy of this letter is on file with these minutes in the Town Clerk's Office during normal business hours).

Conservation Commission has no issues with the Dredge and Fill Application.

Natural Resource Outreach Coalition (NROC) Project with Amanda Stone, UNH Coop Ext-Kickoff Date is April 15, 2008 in the High School Media Center

Mr. Kappler stated that this is a PHD student working with DES and DRED to assist The Town with completing their natural resource inventory along with implementing and updating the 2003 Open Space Plan, which is part of the Master Plan. Invites would be all Town Boards, Sub-Commissions and the general public.

Mr. Kappler brought up the idea of having Sara Pillsbury and Brandon Kernan from the State come down to do a presentation about the aquifers and the well situation around the quarry. The parties invited would be the Conservation Board, Planning Board, Board of Selectman as well and the general public. The meeting would be held in the media room and it would also be televised.

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Mr. Kappler stated that he talked to one Planning Board member about this and they were going to refer to the Town Planner. This was about 4 or 5 weeks ago and he hasn't heard anything since.

Mr. Kappler also brought up the idea that if the other Boards didn't want to be involved then could the Conservation Commission do it alone? He noted that the State really would like to come but they have to be asked. They just can't come on their own.

Cari Boothby just joined the meeting.

Mr. Wood said to Mr. Kappler that he would like to he would like to hear this at Planning Board and he will pursue as to when we can have them come in as an outside source and speak. It would also be good information for the Planning Board to know too.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Kent stated she would like to discuss warrant articles 21 (Business park development-Flint Hill, 35-4) and article 22 (to place a conservation easement in perpetuity of 250 acres of Town owned land, also 35-4).

Ms. Kent wanted to know if the Conservation Commission would like to publicly support these warrant articles. Mr. Wood replied that they can speak up at Saturday's Deliberative Session.

Mr. Wood stated that these two are in conflict. Ms. Kent commented that for many years this parcel, Flint Hill, has been targeted for conservation and last year the public spoke and voted this down. Ms. Kent doesn't understand why it is back here again.

Mr. Wood stated that it makes sense to make a statement in opposition to develop on Flint Hill.

Mr. Wood stated that the 2003 Master Plan and the Open Space Plan have already been accepted in the Town for 3 or 4 years now. And in both cases this piece of property was marked for conservation.

Ms. O'Donnell stated that this is a green development and a mixed use development that would enhance conservation, the warrant article does not mention that, it leaves it up to the Selectmen. She does not see that as protecting that land.

Mr. Wood stated that this would grant the Selectman the ability to develop it, however, any disbursement of that property for use or sale to a developer would entail a 41-14a process where the Selectmen would have a public hearing and be able to disburse that property and second it could come before the town as a warrant article to sell that property.

Jonathan Wood stated they need two statements, one to oppose article 21 and one to support article 22. He also suggested opposing development and any future development of Flint Hill, citing the master plan goals and objectives as well as preserving as a conservation property. He also acknowledged two previous votes where the majority opposed the development of Flint Hill. In addition he feels Conservation Commission should oppose warrant article.

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MOTION

Ms. Kent made a motion for the Conservation Commission to oppose the Warrant Article as written. Due to the fact that the citizens of Raymond have previously opposed the development of Flint Hill on two occasions and the master plan and open space plan both have objectives and goals to preserve Flint Hill as open space and perpetuity. In addition the goals and objectives of the Conservation Commission have been to preserve Flint Hill and perpetuity. Mr. Cramer seconded the motion. All members voted unanimously. **MOTION PASSED.**

MOTION

Ms. Kent made a motion for the Conservation Commission to support the Warrant Article to place a conservation easement in perpetuity on Flint Hill property as the master plan and open space plan both have objectives and goals to preserve Flint Hill as open space and perpetuity. In addition the goals and objectives of the Conservation Commission have been to preserve Flint Hill and perpetuity. Jonathan Wood added to the motion that the citizens of Raymond had previously opposed the development of Flint Hill on two occasions. Ms. O'Donnell seconded the motion. All members voted unanimously. **MOTION PASSED.**

Article 26 –Should Town vote to direct Board of Selectmen to pursue & promote non residential, commercial &/or industrial development at the Rte 101, exit 5, along Rte 27 business corridor and the sewer overlay and allow qualified development projects in these areas requiring off site mitigation for permitted wetlands filling to participate in the pooled mitigation plan.

Mr. Wood stated the Town of Raymond does have a Pooled Mitigation Plan and is solely focused on the sewer overlay district within exit 4. He also stated that this is a problem because it is an incentive program. He also noted that the timeline for development at exit 5 is going to be a lot shorter than the timeline for any additional development beyond Granite Meadows at exit 4. Mr. Kappler disagreed on this.

Members briefly discuss the Pooled Mitigation Plan that the Town has adopted.

Members have brief discussion about making a statement in support of Article 27 at Deliberative Session.

MOTION

Mr. Cramer made a made a motion to pay the bill for the sampling that was done. Ms. O'Donnell seconded. Mr. Wood stated that it is no more than \$200.00. All members voted unanimously in favor of this motion. **MOTION PASSED.**

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter to NH DES from Chairman, Cheryl Killam
Wetlands and Non-Site Specific Permit 2005-02942 from NH DES

ADJOURNMENT

Leslie O'Donnell made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Cramer seconded. The vote was unanimously in the affirmative. The meeting adjourned at 8:27pm

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Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Chapman
Executive Secretary

These minutes were approved as amended by the Conservation Commission on February 20, 2008.