

Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, April 10, 2007

Attendance: Commission members, Mike Pulsifer, Dena Desena, Mike Duddy, Carol Haas, John Herrick and Dick Bauman; Town Planner Maureen O'Meara.

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:07 pm.
2. The March meeting minutes were unanimously approved, as written.
3. **Correspondence.** None except for a letter concerning the parking lot work at Winnick Woods. The next item on the agenda, Winnick Woods Master Plan Implementation, opened with a discussion of the letter.
4. **Winnick Woods Master Plan Implementation.**
 - John distributed copies of an April 5th letter to the Town Manager from Janice Chapman and Bruce Moore, whose property on Sawyer Road abuts Winnick Woods. In the letter, Ms. Chapman and Mr. Moore contend that the recently constructed parking lot access and the lot itself are not where they and members of the Commission agreed to have them located. (A previously negotiated agreement between Moore - Chapman and the Town called for construction of a new driveway to be used for parking access rather than using the existing *Old Farm Road*, which is immediately adjacent to their property. In return, Ms. Chapman and Mr. Moore committed to pay the estimated cost of \$6,400, in the form of a donation to the Town. Privacy issues motivated Ms. Chapman and Mr. Moore to seek the driveway relocation.

The letter concludes by asking for assurance that they will be involved in the planning and implementation of a buffer between their property and the parking area, a proposal made by the Manager in response to their letter.

After a lengthy discussion, the Commission decided that a meeting with the Chapman – Moore's was desirable in order to better understand the situation and determine what might be done to alleviate their privacy concerns. Accordingly, Maureen will determine if Ms. Chapman and/or Mr. Moore can meet with us on site at 2:00 next Sunday.

- The next topic concerned preparations for Trails Day, which is planned for Winnick Woods on June 2. The Commission was told that on March 24 several members completed an initial flagging of the green or 'Winnock Trail.' The snow-covered ground allowed only an approximate marking of the trail route and made it impossible to determine where boardwalks and other wet area remediation might be needed. The Commission agreed that

another site visit would be necessary to finalize the route and determine what should be done in the wet areas. This visit was tentatively scheduled for Saturday, May 5th, at 9:00.

- On another Winnick Woods-related subject, Maureen informed the Commission that she is nominating the 'Winnick Woods Master Plan' for the Maine Association of Planners 'Plan of the Year' award. Copies of the nomination form and supporting material were distributed to Commission members.
 - The final topic was an entrance sign for Winnick Woods the Commission asked Maureen to have designed. The proposed sign layout she emailed to members was very well received. The only suggested change was inclusion of a reference to Winnick Woods as being one of the Town's greenbelt trails.
5. **Village Crossing Greenbelt Connection.** At the Commissions' February meeting, David Rogers, an executive representing the Village Crossing assisted living facility offered to allow parking in one of Village Crossing's parking lots and access to trails on their property which connect to greenbelt trails in the Spurwink marsh area. The Commission was very appreciative of Mr. Rogers offer and told him we would like to work out the details at a later date. At this meeting, the Commission decided to make a site visit to Village Crossing for purposes of laying out a trail connection from the parking lot and to discuss wording and placement of signage. Dena will find out if Mr. Rogers is available on Sunday, April 22 at 200 p.m.
 6. **Comprehensive Plan Overview.** With the agreement of the Chairman, this item was postponed to the May meeting.
 7. **Gull Crest.** Maureen reported that Skip Murray has moved the telephone poles that were in the way of the floating boardwalk to a location where they will be needed to construct boardwalks in the future. He was offered payment for the work but refused it. This prompted expressions of gratitude from Commission members and discussion of how much Skip has done for the Town for many years. Maureen also told the Commission she expects sections of floating boardwalk to be delivered to the site as time and conditions allow.
 8. **Planning Board Meeting.** No items requiring Commission review are on the agenda of the next Planning Board meeting. For information purposes, Maureen discussed three items the Planning Board will be considering.
 9. **Monthly Trail Walk.** The April 15th Winnick Woods visit and the April 22 visit to Village Crossing will serve as this month's trail walk.

10. Meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 8, 2007.