

Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 11, 2008

Attendance: Commission members: Dick Bauman, Carole Haas, John Planinsek, John Marchewka, Judy Dooley, Town Planner Maureen O'Meara, Kathleen Janick, Suzanne McGinn, Steve Ballou on behalf of the Land Trust, Kerry Kertes, a teacher at Cape Elizabeth High School who was invited, with 5 CE high school students, to give presentations for bridge construction at Stonegate.

1. Meeting was called to order at 7:03
2. February minutes approved without change.
3. 5 CE high school students, under the direction of the Engineering class teacher Kerry Kertes, gave presentations for construction of a replacement bridge on the Stonegate property.

Presentation 1 – Chris Bouchard – 24ft long, sonotubes 2-4ft into ground, with 2-12ft ramps & railings – cost estimate \$1099.

Presentation 2 – Andrew Jones – 24ft long, 4ft wide, railings, sonotubes 6in into ground – cost estimate \$700.

Presentation 3 – Lincoln Jordan – 4ft high above water, 20ft span, 2-10 ramps, railings, planking running lengthwise – cost estimate \$1500.

Presentation 4 - Jordi – Steel bridge, 2 I-beams into sonotubes, 2-12ft ramps – cost estimate \$1800.

Presentation 5 – Fritz – 22ft long, wood with rope railing, not attached to ground, could be moved, \$500.

After a discussion of all the presentations by commission members, it was tentatively agreed that the final bridge plan would probably be a conglomeration of all 5 plans. It was agreed that the final structure would be of all wood construction, with no handrails, built low to the ground to decrease angle of the ramps. Mr. Kertes agreed that his class would prepare one redesign and asked if a structural engineer could meet with his class and review the design. Maureen will ask the Town Engineer from Oest Associates to meet with the class.

4. Kathleen Janick and Suzanne McGinn of the Cape Elizabeth Land Trust wanted to discuss possibilities for the 8th grade community service project. Approximately 150 8th grade students with oversight from teachers, parents and CE Land Trust members would be available for both a

morning and afternoon shift for approximately one week of work.
Tentative dates would fall somewhere between May 13 and May 30th.

The following projects were discussed as possibilities:

Winnick Woods – Potting shed and entrance way spruce-up.
Gull Crest – Trail maintenance and wood chip moving
Gull Crest – Trail work around garden shed and or cemetery trail

After discussion, it was decided that work at Winnick Woods including grading of soil around the potting shed, clearing of brush, spreading of wood chips might offer the best possibilities. April 5th at 9:00 am with a rain date of April 6th was picked as a time for a site planning visit. Meet at the parking lot.

5. It was agreed that Maureen O’Meara would contact Lester Kenway to arrange a site walk over and consultation for work to be conducted at Great Pond. Mr. Kenway has extensive expertise in trail building and maintenance from work with AMC. Commission members agreed to pay for his consulting fee to discuss trail building techniques and possibly to engage his crew for help with the work.
6. Ken Cyr, who built the Spurwink River Bridge and boardwalk, was invited to the meeting. He provided his thoughts for bridge construction over Alewife Brook at Great Pond. His thoughts for the bridge included all wood construction supported by wooden posts driven into the stream bed. Mr. Cyr said that he would be available right away to start construction if that was the Commission’s decision.

Maureen pointed out that a project of this magnitude (estimated in the \$20,000 range) would need to be put out to bid with a RFP. It was decided that a RFP should be written and submitted for review.

7. Permitting – Discussion took place about the need for permits during work conducted in and around stream beds. It was agreed that any work conducted at Great Pond would be covered by permitting already completed under the initial bridge building and trail work done there. John Marchewka agreed to initiate the paperwork for permitting of work to be conducted during bridge building at Stonegate.
8. Town Land Inventory Spreadsheet – Maureen O’Meara presented a spreadsheet requested by the Conservation Commission which contained an inventory of all “green space” land owned by the town and any land use restrictions attached to these parcels.

The Conservation Commission has been tasked by the town to host a public forum with trail users to address potential use conflicts.

9. Planning Board – Maureen O’Meara provided a status report on the Planning Board review of the Eastman Meadow subdivision project. Due to re-delineation of RP-1 wetlands on the land, a further compaction of the structures to be built on the property has been proposed. No further action was taken by the commission at this time.

Wetland amendment – Currently there are 4 different ways that the town can allow for development within the 250ft buffer from a wetland. Now there is a proposal for a 5th way – connection of the business or residence to town water and sewer. The Commission made no comments on the amendment.

10. Meeting adjourned 9:35pm.