

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NEWINGTON CONSERVATION
COMMISSION HELD ON 20 SEPTEMBER 2001

Present were: Commission members Dorothy Watson, Barbara McDonald, Kay Akerley, Jane Hislop, Jack O'Reilly, George Fletcher, and Nancy Cauvet and Town Planner Tom Morgan. Absent were Commission members Margaret Lamson and Jim Leger.

In the absence of Chairman Lamson, Vice Chairman Kay Akerley chaired the meeting, which was convened at 7:07 p.m.

Jane Hislop made a motion that the minutes of the meeting of 9 August 2001 be accepted. Seconded by Jack O'Reilly. Motion carried.

Mark West, wetland scientist, was present to present the Rockingham Planning Commission's preliminary proposal to assist the town in natural resource mapping. Members were furnished copies of the RPC letter of 20 September 2001 addressing the subject. There was discussion as to what available GIS Data Layers the Commission would be most interested in obtaining. Tom Morgan and Commission members stressed that the Commission wanted to focus on wetlands. That being the case, Mark West was asked what maps he would recommend to assist the Commission in maintaining this focus. He agreed he would submit his recommendations, along with RPC's projected costs for the maps, in time for the Commission's October meeting. Tom Morgan agreed to contact RPC to see if he could talk them into furnishing the maps at a lower cost than that indicated in the 20 September letter.

There was discussion concerning the more accurate data to be obtained through the use of orthophotos, which Mark West will provide during Phase 2 of this project.

The Town Planner's letter of 11 September 2001 concerning the proposed alterations to the intersection of Mott Cove and Fox Point Road was discussed. Commission members agreed they considered the bus company's concern a non-problem, deeming this intersection no worse than any number of others in town. However, it was agreed that if the Selectmen decide some action must be taken, the least desirable of the options presented in

the aforementioned letter would be the construction of a gravel shoulder on town conservation lands along the easterly side of Fox Point Road. Motion made by Barbara McDonald and seconded by Jane Hislop that the Selectmen be advised that the Commission makes the following recommendations:

(1) Least desirable option is construction of a gravel shoulder on town conservation lands (2) If some action is to be taken, recommend adopting Mott Cove resident Barry Kimball's proposal as outlined in his letter of 20 September 2001 to the Selectmen. (3) Suggest that smaller bus (as opposed to the 72-76 passenger size) may be adequate to transport town children. Smaller bus size would make turning radius a lot smaller. Motion carried.

Concerning the subject of vegetation for the proposed River Road cul-de-sac near Patterson Lane, Nancy Cauvet made a motion that this item be tabled. Seconded by Jane Hislop. Motion carried.

Barbara McDonald made a motion that the Newington Conservation Commission support the City of Portsmouth in recommending a 100 ft. buffer zone around wetlands at Pease International Tradeport. Seconded by Dorothy Watson. The vote to support was unanimous.

Nancy Cauvet said she would very much like to serve on the committee set up by the Planning Board to meet with and discuss with property owners the possible advantages they could realize by easements or other conservation measures to help preserve their land. Understanding that the committee was already two over original proposal (including two from the Commission), Kay Akerley asked for Tom Morgan's comment. He suggested Nancy attend the 4 October meeting of the committee to discuss further.

The Standard Dredge and Fill Application of TyCom to install walkways connecting existing mooring dolphins and replace mooring bollards on the dolphins was discussed. Jane Hislop made a motion that the Commission approve the application. Seconded by George Fletcher. Motion carried.

Barbara McDonald made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Jack O'Reilly. Motion carried, meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Kay Akerley
Vice Chairman and Secretary