

Members Present: Justin Richardson, Peggy Lamson, Doreen Stern, George Fletcher, and Jane Hislop

Members Absent: Dorothy Watson

Also Present: Charlie Moreno, Chris Bellmare, Will Carey, Jocelyn Carey, and Kirk Aengenheyster

Commencement: Chairman Richardson opened the meeting at 6:33 PM.

Town Forest Management Plan: Charles Moreno prepared a management plan for the forest in the early 1990's. He stated that the original plan is still timely and relevant. He described an old stand of trees on Fox Point. The commission discussed the presence of invasive species in the Town Forest and at Fox Point. Moreno passed around plans of town forests in other communities. Richardson volunteered to digitize the original plan. Bellmare will provide some trail maps. Richardson asked Moreno to prepare a scope of work and a budget. The commissioners agreed to include Fox Point in the scope of work.

Little Bay Oyster Company: Will Carey and Kirk Aengenheyster gave a brief history of their operations off of Fox Point. The oyster farm dates to 2007, and was permitted by NH Fish & Game. They wish to expand the farm from 1.5 acres to 3 acres. They were recently advised that a permit from NH DES Wetlands Bureau is required. They hope to broaden their operations by obtaining a NRCS Red Tide grant to plant oysters at former oyster habitats in the estuary. The company is faced with a \$26,000 DES application fee. All agreed that the fee is unreasonable. The expansion will also require the approval of Governor and Council. Hislop moved to write a letter to Governor Lynch in support of the proposal. Lamson seconded. All in favor.

Minutes of January 15: Richardson moved to adopt. Hislop seconded. All in favor. No apparent progress has been made toward filling the secretarial vacancy.

Cider Mill: Lamson recused herself. No one has talked to the owner yet.

Invoices: Richardson moved to pay the Baldwin bill in the amount of \$1,420. Hislop seconded. All in favor. Lamson moved to pay the West Environmental bill in the amount of \$488. Hislop seconded. All in favor. Hislop moved to pay the \$175 in dues to the NH Association of Conservation Commissions. Lamson seconded. All in favor.

Landscaping Town Properties: Richardson reported that the Board of Selectmen seeks the Conservation Commission's input on this matter.

Flagstones Easement: The Planning Board wishes to determine the Commission's interest in administering a conservation easement for approximately four acres of the Russell Bernard property. Hislop moved that the commission would be willing to take on that responsibility. Lamson seconded. All in favor. Richardson will contact Attorney Pelech.

Adjournment: Hislop moved to quit for the night. Stern seconded. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 9 PM.

T. Morgan
Loyal Sec'y