

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NEWINGTON CONSERVATION
COMMISSION HELD ON 18 JULY 2002

Present were Commission members George Fletcher, Barbara McDonald, Margaret Lamson, Dorothy Watson, Jane Hislop and Kay Akerley, and Selectmen's representative Jack O'Reilly. Absent were Commission members Nancy Cauvet and Jim Leger.

Chairman Lamson called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

Moved by Jane Hislop that the minutes of the meeting of 13 June 2002 be approved; seconded by Barbara McDonald. Motion carried.

Chairman Lamson advised that the tree the Commission had voted to purchase and plant in honor of Clotilde Straus, who has been so helpful to the Commission over the years, has been purchased and planted in front of the Town Hall. After discussion as to date/time most convenient to all for dedication ceremony, it was decided the Chairman should call Clotilde to arrange best time and date for her, then notify Commission members. Jack O'Reilly said he would arrange for appropriate press coverage and ask Tom Morgan, Town Planner, to post on the Internet.

Chairman Lamson advised she was still waiting for Atty. Hastings to provide legible copy of landscaping maintenance plan for Wal-Mart. Jack O'Reilly said Atty. Hastings had advised him a legible copy was not available.

The Chairman addressed the request of the Mott Cove residents to cut/trim trees on town property which obstruct their view of the river. After a period of discussion, George Fletcher made a motion that the Commission recommend to the Selectmen that they deny the request. Motion seconded by Barbara McDonald. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Chairman Lamson said Tom Morgan, Town Planner, had received a landscaping maintenance plan from Mr. Howard Patten. After much discussion concerning the landscaping at Eastern Bearings (property formerly owned by Mr. Patten) the Commission determined that:

(1) Mr. Patten has been unresponsive in attempts to resolve this issue. The original landscaping plan by John R. Sullivan, Jr., Landscape Architect, dated 2/19/99, which was approved by the Commission, has never been satisfactorily implemented.

(2) The landscaping maintenance plan recently submitted to the Planning Board is simply a generic plan --there are no formally designated parties.

(3) Legal opinion should be sought as to what options the town might have in regard to retaining some of the bond money to provide for proper landscaping, and how this might be achieved in view of new ownership of the land. Jack O'Reilly will look into this.

The Chairman advised that notification had been received that DES has approved the requests of David and Susan Philbrick of Brickyard Way and Francis Sullivan of Welch Cove Drive for the construction of permanent piers.

Chairman Lamson said she had been contacted by Tracy Degnan of the Rockingham County Conservation District concerning the grant request submitted by Nancy Cauvet. The Chairman advised Tracy that there was some misunderstanding -- the Commission does not have money in its budget to provide dollars for any matching grants this year.

Jane Hislop advised that the Coastal Clean-Up was scheduled for September 20-21 this year.

The Chairman said that Mark West will be attending the Commission's 8 August meeting to bring us up to date on his wetlands inventory project. She said she would like to keep this the only item on the agenda for that meeting.

Jane Hislop explained the Senior Projects course at UNH and how these students can be made available to communities to conduct various projects, such as wetland assessments, natural resource inventories, wildlife management plans, etc. The cost is minimal. It was agreed a total inventory of the natural resources of Fox Point might be a desirable project for such

student involvement. We would anticipate submitting a proposal that would involve the students for one semester next calendar year.

The Chairman reminded members that the next regular meeting will be on 8 August.

On a motion by Jane Hislop and seconded by George Fletcher, it was voted to adjourn at 8:16 p.m.

Kay Akerley
Secretary/Vice Chair