

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NEWINGTON CONSERVATION
COMMISSION HELD ON 5 DECEMBER 2002

Present were Commission members Dorothy Watson, George Fletcher, Kay Akerley, Margaret Lamson, Selectmen's representative Jan Stuart, and Town Planner, Tom Morgan. Commission members Jane Hislop, Barbara McDonald, and Nancy Cauvet were absent.

Chairman Lamson called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

George Fletcher made a motion that the minutes of the meeting of 7 November 2002 be accepted; seconded by Dorothy Watson. Motion carried.

At the Chairman's request, Tom Morgan addressed the issue of the Trickey's Cove easement. He referred to the exchange of E-mail between himself and the Seacoast Land Trust. The SLT stated that the list of restrictions which the Commission had compiled, and which Tom had E-mailed to the SLT, were mostly problematical and really not appropriate for inclusion in an easement inasmuch as the easement holder is bound to enforce anything included in the easement, and as a land trust, they could not enforce many of the restrictions. After discussion, it was agreed that the recommended restrictions be withdrawn and any restrictions deemed necessary be taken care of by posting and including the area in routine checks by Newington police. Kay Akerley made a motion that it be left to the Town Planner and the Board of Selectmen to negotiate with the Seacoast Land Trust regarding the terms of the easement at Trickey's Cove. Seconded by George Fletcher. Motion carried.

The Chairman referred to the matter of the Frink property and their desire to negotiate an easement. Their pending application for funds through LCHIP was mentioned. The Chairman also passed out copies of a letter from Tracy Degman of the Rockingham County Conservation District which outlined information concerning USDA Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program. The Frink property could be eligible under this program, but Tracy pointed out that the applicant for such a grant would have to be an entity such as a town, not the owner. Tracy suggested that the Town of Newington would be the strongest applicant. There was considerable discussion

concerning the location and boundaries of the portion of the Frink property proposed for easement, the amount of monies available to the Commission at this point in time, the desirability of contracting for the services of the Rockingham County Conservation District for the estimated fee of \$1500 to prepare the application, and the time constraints necessitated by the imposed deadline for submission. Chairman Lamson said she would like to have John and Helen Frink meet with the Commission, Tracy Degman, and the Board of Selectmen to see what we can do and what we wish to do concerning this matter. A tentative date of 17 December at 5:15 p.m. was agreed to. The Chairman will contact the Frinks and Tracy Degman, Jan Stuart said the Selectmen have a full plate of meetings for the rest of this month, but she will pass along the request to have a representative in attendance.

There was some discussion concerning the lease of the Town Forest which the PDA is proposing to negotiate with the town. As one of the conditions to turning over the lease, the PDA will require the forest to be "forested." Jan Stuart passed along the Selectmen's request that the Commission increase the amount proposed in their budget for the Town Forest by \$1000. After discussion, Commission members felt the \$3000 they are requesting will be sufficient.

After discussion, it was agreed that the Commission's budget include \$162 for dues (to NHACC); \$200 for beautification; \$4620 for wetlands resource project; and \$3000 for the Town Forest. George Fletcher made a motion that the Commission submit a proposed budget in the amount of \$7982; seconded by Dorothy Watson. Motion carried. It was agreed that a memorandum of explanation for the individual items be submitted along with the budget.

Kay Akerley made a motion to adjourn; seconded by George Fletcher. Motion carried; meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Kay Akerley
Vice Chair/Secretary