

Present: Vice Chairman Gail Pare, Dorothy Watson, Barbara McDonald, Planner Tom Morgan.  
Selectman Cosmas Iocovozzi arrived late.

Absent: Marlon Frink, Susie Carmichael, Sandy Hislop.  
Meeting was opened at 7:15 by Vice Chair Gail Pare.

**Minutes:** Minutes of meeting held 1/10/02, were amended to include that Barbara McDonald was instructed to send personal invitations to the 15 property owners on the priority list and she was to be reimbursed the costs. Costs will be reimbursed from Planning Board budget. Minutes as amended were accepted on a motion by Barbara McDonald seconded by Dorothy Watson.

**Discussed the Informational Workshop:**

The Committee is encouraged by the good turnout (between 40 & 50 ) and the excellent educational content. Tom Morgan stated that speaker Bob Miller reported that the workshop certainly facilitated his mission/agenda in Newington.

Committee agreed to amend the minutes of the Workshop by adding that Dia Brickner-Wood who represents Great Bay Partnership, was unable to attend the workshop but is available to assist property owners and the Town; that the Conservation Commission is also represented on the Committee; that the number of parcels identified as having potential is fifteen (15).

Minutes as amended were accepted on a motion by Barbara McDonald seconded by Dorothy Watson.

Discussed a possible second session to meet with property owners and have an attorney present. Gail Pare stated that she has a list of attorneys familiar ( with conservation easements), she would try to set a date and notify members - will most likely be sometime in March. Gail noted that there are grants available which include funds to cover attorneys fees.

Committee discussed ways to thank the workshop guest speakers and on a motion by Barbara McDonald, seconded by Dorothy Watson, voted to send a thank you note and include an honorarium of \$50, to: Nature Conservancy, Great Bay Partnership and the County Extension Service. Tom Morgan agreed to write the notes and procure the checks.

Gail Pare stated that more handbooks/pamphlets are needed and on a motion by Dorothy Watson, seconded by Barbara McDonald, voted to order the following:  
10 copies of "Conserving Family Farms"; 5 copies of "Conserving Family Lands"; 1 copy of "Open Space of New Hampshire".

Discussed future actions - Gail Pare suggested waiting a short while and in meantime gather

more information on funding sources. Tom Morgan suggested that after meeting with attorney, a more direct approach is needed. Property owners should be asked if they have any interest in conserving their open space - he is concerned that developers have a lot of interest in Newington.

He would like to see the Planning Board consider cluster zoning as a way of keeping open space. It was also suggested that set-back for development on waterfront should be extended.

Tom was asked what criteria the Planning Board used to identify the 15 potential parcels. He replied that it was mainly land threatened by developers and particularly scenic parcels.

Barbara McDonald asked about Conservation Funds - if any had been received and where they were deposited. Tom agreed to check with the Selectmen.

Cosmas Iacovozzi arrived at this time (8:15).

Discussed methods of reaching potential land owners and also advising residents of the sound economics and the benefits of preserving open space by conservation easements and selling development rights.

Iacovozzi suggested that the numbers could be printed in a handout for the residents to see.

Agreed that any package of handouts should also include the names of attorneys recommended for this type of work and copies of the power point questionnaire. Also, any handouts should be mailed to property owners unable to attend any of the public sessions.

Gail Pare advised that there is a grant given by the Rockingham Conservation District which allows for payment of services. One service is writing grant applications and she will talk to Tracy Degan when she returns to work from maternity leave and ask for her assistance.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m. on a motion by Barbara McDonald, seconded by Cosmas Iacovozzi.

Pat Main  
Secretary

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