

**TOWN OF DURHAM**  
**Conservation Commission**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, January 8, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 PM by Chairman Brian Ameche at the Durham Public Library.

**Members Present:** Brian Ameche, Ralph Chase, Casey Cordes, Joe Dattilo, Michael Doyle, Rick Huntley, Bob Melvin

**Guest:** Charlie Abbott was observing the meeting as a requirement for his US Citizenship class.

**Approval of December minutes:** Ralph Chase, seconded by Joe Dattilo to approve the December 11, 2007 minutes as distributed, made a motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Amendments to Agenda / Approval of January Agenda:** Casey Cordes, seconded by Ralph Chase to approve the agenda as distributed, made a motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Payment of Bills:** Bill for \$18.75 to Pam Huntley for secretarial services. Casey Cordes, seconded by Bob Melvin to approve the payment of the bill, made a motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Public Session:** Jack Stahl has requested additional trash barrels for the Whites Farm property.

**Service Project at Curtis Woodlands - Sheehan Michael:** Brian Ameche provided Sheehan Michael a copy of the most recent Environmental Review Team (ERT) report on Curtis Woodlands.

**Site Development Plan Review - TBD:** none

**Request to use Whites Farm - TBD:** none

**Status of Proposed Open Space Acquisitions & Update on the New Phase of Open Space Acquisition Program:** Brian Ameche reported that the appraiser should have 3 reports ready by the February meeting. Brian has a call into Laura Francis' office to set up a meeting to discuss the general business of the Conservation Commission. Ralph and Bob would also attend that meeting.

**Open Space Issues Reports – Dead Hill Road & Creampot Road Gates, Signs, Security, Maintenance at Deerfield Farms, Other:** Joe Dattilo has posted the open space signs on the Pent Road property. The Saw Mill gate is still open. Bob Melvin suggested marking the well heads on Whites Farm with galvanized pipe painted orange.

**Open forum with Property Stewards – Final Roster: Whites Farm – Jack Stahl; Pent Road (Deerfield Farm) – Melynda Naples; Howd Road – Matt Reed; Pisgah Mountain - Andy Golschneider with BSA Troop 27; Creampot Valley – George & Irene Roberts; Curtis Woodlands – Rob Williams; Portion of Wimler Property with Public Access – Dick Porter; and Sawmill Road – Ray Koba:** Christina Marks is interested in working with the Commission as a Property Steward. There were no reports this month from the other property stewards. There was a brief discussion about the continued ATV/4-wheel drive problem on town properties.

**Chair's Report – Correspondence, Memorial Plantings Marker for Existing Memorial Plantings for Edwin Eick - Tupelo, Jack Donadio – American Dogwood, Austin Ackerman – 3 American Hollies, Carl Otte - ?, Frank Behrens - ? & Mr. White - ?; New Memorial Plantings for Roger Newton (white oak) & Charlie Wimler (TBD). Plan to replace 2 maples with water tolerant trees in the Spring:**  
Nothing further to report.

**Election of Officers for 2008:** Michael Doyle, seconded by Casey Cordes to elect the slate of officers as presented; Chair – Brian Ameche, Co-Vice Chair – Ralph Chase, Co-Vice Chair – Bob Melvin and Secretary – Bill LaFlamme, made a motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Other Business:** Bob Melvin mentioned the Connecticut River Coastal Conservation District has three workshops coming up on January 14<sup>th</sup> pertaining to the Mattabeset watershed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Huntley  
Recording Secretary