

Town of Merrimack, New Hampshire

Community Development Department 6 Baboosic Lake Road Town Hall - Lower level - East Wing 603 424-3531 Fax 603 424-1408 www.merrimacknh.gov

Planning - Zoning - Economic Development - Conservation

MERRIMACK CONSERVATION COMMISSION

NOVEMBER 18, 2013

MEETING MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Merrimack Conservation Commission was held on Monday, November 18, 2013 at 6:33 p.m. at the Merrimack Memorial Conference Room.

Chairman Tim Tenhave presided:

Members of the Commission Present:	Matt Caron, Vice Chairman Thomas Lehman Gage Perry Simon Thomson Councilor Thomas Mahon
Members of the Commission Absent:	Ron Davies Robert Croatti, Alternate Lauren Kras, Alternate
Also in Attendance:	Matthew Bangert, Project Engineer, Nanocomp Technologies, Inc. Mark Johnson, Senior Landscape Architect, SMRT Associates Melissa Jackman, Civil Engineer, SMRT Associates

Commissioner Davies was excused.

Chairman Tenhave reminded the viewing audience hunting season is upon us, and encouraged those venturing out into the woods to dress appropriately, e.g., hunter orange, and stick to the trails.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

APPOINTMENTS - None

STATUTORY/ADVISORY BUSINESS

1. Nanocomp Technologies, Inc. (NCTI)

Review for recommendation of an application proposing site improvements at the NCTI facility located at 57 Daniel Webster Highway, Tax Map 2E, Lot 006-01.

Matthew Bangert, Project Engineer, Nanocomp Technologies, Inc. stated Nanocomp is a manufacturer of carbon nanotube fibers, which are used in military, aerospace, and a few industrial applications. The material is made through a chemical vapor deposition reaction, a fairly clean reaction. The end product comes out as a felt (looks similar to carbon paper).

They also make a yarn. The yarns are used in wire and cable applications for light weighting. One of the aerospace applications they are used in is the Juno spacecraft. Areas being looked at are wiring cabling harnesses for commercial aircraft. Airplanes are equipped with televisions in every seat, which equates to hundreds of pounds of extra wire in the aircraft and hundreds of thousands of dollars of fuel per pound per year. There is a considerable interest in the materials for that application. On the military side, is light weighting armor for military personnel. The materials in hard armor will increase stopping power between 10-15% on impact, but more importantly the decrease fracture rate substantially, e.g., the vest can take multiple hits in the same area

Merrimack Conservation Commission 11/18/13

without fracturing. In soft armor, police vests, they are working with two of the nation's leading manufacturers and experiencing 30% improvements in stopping power with virtually no weight gain.

Nanocomp has been given a President Decree of Essential Technology for national security, which opens them up for various funding mechanisms through the Government.

They have fit out 32,000 sq. ft. of the old Nashua Corp. building, which has been brought up from a state of disrepair to a rather nice facility. They are preparing to expand into the next 32,000 sq. ft. of the building with an eye towards taking the full 100,000 sq. ft. Sixty (60) employees were brought into the facility and an additional 60+ will be brought in for the next phase. At total buildout, there will be approximately 180 employees in the building.

Melissa Jackman, SMRT Associates, noted the Commission is in receipt of a copy of the plans as well as the stormwater management report, which outlines how the added impervious areas will be treated. With regard to site improvements, nothing on the site is being changed in the sense that it will remain an industrial area. The entrance to the facility will remain the same. The gravel parking lot will be more formalized into employee/visitor parking. There will be some increased fuel storage, which will be located on concrete pads and surrounded by stone. The area satisfies the required turning radius for delivery trucks and maintains circulation around to the north parking lot, which will be developed in a further phase with a similar setup with regard to fuel storage and utilization of the existing exit/driveway. There will be additional parking in the far north lot to accommodate demand as increases occur.

With regard to stormwater, Ms. Jackman noted with an increase in impervious area, the need exists to provide for treatment. The site is not one that would be conducive to a detention pond or surface runoff treatment. That along with the proximity to the river will not allow for addressing the pre to post increase. The stormwater report identifies a .62 CFS increase from pre to post for the ten-year storm, and an increase of ½ a CSF for the 25-year storm. For the ten-year storm the increase is approximately 3.5% from existing, for the twenty-five year storm the increase is 1.7%. The existing pipe is functioning properly and no problems are anticipated for handling the small increase (about an acre of added impervious area).

Since the pre to post cannot be treated, the plan calls for the treatment of water quality. Being proposed is use of StormPod or some comparable insert in all catch basins, which would treat all of the solids and catch all debris. There is also a cartridge that will filter out any of the hydrocarbons, grease, oils, etc. that result from a typical parking lot. Given the size of the site and the limitations for traditional storm water basin, etc. the storm inserts are believed to be the best application for treating stormwater before it leaves the site. Ms. Jackman added everything that is being changed onsite will be going through the catch basins and will be treated.

Mr. Bangert reiterated the overall plan will be done in phases. The initial area of interest for the Phase II development (this phase) will be the south end, and improvements within the middle third of the building. The desire was to bring the entire plan forward understanding it would be necessary to return to the various Boards should changes occur over time.

When asked how the cartridges would be maintained, Mark Johnson, SMRT Associates, stated they would be inspected. The manufacturer's recommendation is to change them out once a year depending on the loading. Quarterly inspections will allow them to gauge the appropriate time for replacement. Mr. Bangert stated the maintenance would be integrated into the same time schedule as the filters for all air handling equipment on the roof, which is done quarterly. Commissioner Perry questioned whether there are any special requirements for cartridge disposal. Mr. Johnson responded, to the extent you would have some hydrocarbons, it would be disposed of in the same manner as what is taken out of the basins. He is unsure of how the Town addresses that issue, and would have to verify how that would be addressed.

Ms. Jackman commented the manufacturer's representative has indicated when addressing Alteration of Terrain (AoT) permitting, the State has taken the position they won't wholesale approve the product as a full on treatment measure; it is considered a pre-treatment measure. If it went to a higher level of permitting the response the company received is the State would approve it on a case-by-case basis depending on the site. It was noted with the first few cartridges the company (Fabco) would provide instruction for servicing; however, there is no specialized training required. The location of existing basins and new structures were identified.

Vice Chairman Caron questioned whether all runoff is treated before going down the steep slope on the back portion of the property, and was informed it is. When asked if it discharges across the parking lot on the lower lot,

Merrimack Conservation Commission 11/18/13

Mr. Johnson responded, on the lower, there is a 24" pipe that ties into the system and then pipes out around the northeast end of the building. Currently in the north end of the site there isn't any closed drainage so all of that is sheetflowing into a drainage ditch along that access drive that goes between the two, and then into an inlet into that 24" pipe on the low side. There is nothing dumping out onto any open pavement.

Mr. Johnson noted they were able to essentially create a ridge at the edge of the new paving. The new paving was dished and directed to a new drainage structure. They cannot get any of the existing, but are capturing the new paving and getting it into the filter unit in the catch basin.

Chairman Tenhave questioned the new storage units, in particular the alcohol (methanol and ethanol) storage, and whether it is designed to collect everything in an instance of a tank simply letting go. Mr. Bangert stated the intent for the sizing of the concrete basin to cover the maximum spill of a delivery truck, which would be the largest single volume (tanks sized to 10,000 gallons, but the trucks are less). As soon as a truck pulls in the gates (located on either side of the access pad) are activated, which enables an electronic connection to the valves. The valves shift/divert the drain from stormwater to the spill containment tank. If there were a catastrophic leak there is enough volume to take the entire load of the truck into the basin. Chairman Tenhave noted methanol and ethanol, in the event of a spill, would likely evaporate, and would not blend with any groundwater, etc.

When asked, Mr. Johnson stated they have met with the Fire Chief and are in compliance with all requirements. The one concern expressed was regarding containment and protection around the tank farm area. To prevent accidental vehicle access as well as pedestrian access, the island will be curbed, a NH DOT grade external guardrail will be put in place and behind it chainlink fencing.

With regard to fertilizer use, Mr. Bangert stated his assumption some minimal level of fertilizer would be used. Chairman Tenhave stated the preference for low-phosphate slow release nitrogen. Mr. Bangert stated they would adhere to any recommendation of the Commission. Commissioner Perry noted there should be no invasive species and that use of de-icing compounds be minimized, and applicators Green SnowPro certified.

When asked if the need for additional snow storage is anticipated, Mr. Johnson noted the LP1 plan delineates snow storage. He remarked it would be season dependent. He noted a loader is kept onsite all season and the snow is stored over the guardrail on the long parking line (considerable grass area). Nothing was trucked offsite in the prior year.

Mr. Johnson stated there would be no invasive species; however, not all plantings would be native. He questioned whether there is a requirement for all plantings to be native. Chairman Tenhave stated there is no hard and fast rule, it is simply what the Commission encourages.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Emergency Lane and Gates on South Grater Road

Commission to review a proposal to designate a portion of South Grater Road (Class VI Road) an emergency Lane and to also gate with locks that portion of the road. This portion to be within the Grater Woods Conservation Area and in accordance with the accepted Grater Woods Stewardship Plan.

Commissioner Lehman provided a write-up outlining the proposal as well as a PowerPoint presentation, which could be used when the proposal is before the Town Council. He requested feedback from the Commission with regard to moving forward with the information provided.

The proposal is intended to identify the reasons for an emergency lane designation; support increased use of entire area that will result from the implementation of the Stewardship Plan (Plan), the emergency lane designation would allow for improvements to be made on a Class VI road, and the entirety of the area being identified as a Conservation Focus Area (CFA). Commissioner Perry suggested it be specifically noted it is both public and private parcels that make up the 1,300 acres (Grater Woods CFA). Vice Chairman Caron suggested the neighboring Amherst conservation land could be identified within the PowerPoint, which triples the size of the CFA.

Chairman Tenhave noted the locations identified on the map included in the PowerPoint are slightly different than the ones identified in the Plan. Commissioner Lehman explained in the Plan there is a parcel behind the structure/house, which is a Commission parcel. The gate location in the Plan showed it in line with the private

parcel; however, he believes it more suitable to put the gate within the boundary line of the Commission's property.

With regard to the emergency lane designation, the area has been broken down into two sections; southern and northern. Although the desire would be for the Town Council to consider the entire area, he would like to see each section considered individually. The Master Plan speaks to encouraging private parcel owners to make forestry stewardship plans, maintain open space, etc. The impetus is there for the Town to encourage open space. What would be done with the designation is providing an avenue to support that space being kept open.

Private parcel owners can remove their permission for the designation at any time. However, emergency vehicles have access regardless of permissions granted. When asked what impact would result from private landowners removing their permission for the emergency lane designation, Commissioner Lehman stated that section would no longer have the designation of emergency lane; therefore, the Town would not be able to make improvements using any of its financial resources. Chairman Tenhave remarked, the Class VI road is, by definition, an unmaintained road. Emergency lane designation allows the Town to do maintenance to provide for emergency access. Councilor Mahon added, without impacting the fact it is a Class VI road.

Chairman Tenhave questioned whether it is a true statement; with the designation, the Town could add restrictions as to the use of the lane once it has been improved. In doing so, you would then potentially impact an abutting landowner's use of that property, and the landowner could request relief. Commissioner Lehman stated his belief that is only the case for a Class A Trail.

Commissioner Lehman stated the bottom line to be the designation would allow the Town to make improvements if it determined there is the potential for an emergency. He remarked private owners can make improvements at their own expense, but for the Town to utilize funding to keep the road up to a standard that emergency vehicles can get in and out requires the designation to be in place. Councilor Mahon suggested attention be paid to noting the legal framework is clearly understood and that it is understood the road would remain a Class VI road. He remarked the fear will be if making improvements the road would be upgraded to something else (town maintained road). That is not the intent.

Commissioner Perry stated his agreement with identifying the area in two sections so that it is clearly understood there is a section that is not owned by the Commission/Town. Commissioner Lehman questioned the will of the Commission. He reiterated his desire for the Town Council to be asked to designate both the northern and southern sections individually so that any issue(s) raised by private property owners would not impact forward movement on the Town owned section. When asked why a private land owner might take issue, Councilor Mahon remarked it is simply a matter of crossing a private parcel and the concern the Town might be impinging on what that private landowner can do on that parcel, e.g., there may be the appearance it would restrict what they can do on their property. Commissioner Perry stated the appearance may be there, but the action of designating the area an emergency lane would not have any impact on a private landowner.

Vice Chairman Caron agreed with the approach of seeking separate approval for each section noting they would be addressed differently; one will have gates placed on either end and the other may be improved upon. The intended gates will not restrict entry to any privately owned parcels since they can be accessed from Wilson Hill entrance of South Grater Road. Councilor Mahon questioned whether the private property owners have been contacted, and was informed that has not yet occurred. He remarked legal counsel would be asked to review the proposal and procedure followed to ensure any and all legal requirements are met. He added should a Public Hearing be required, public notice would be addressed as part of that process.

The consensus of the Commission was to ensure abutter notifications are sent out.

Chairman Tenhave stated his desire for the gates to be locked, and to make that intention known to the Council. Commissioner Perry remarked the language states subject to gates and bars, and he was under the impression there would not be locks. Councilor Mahon remarked, as the stewards of that property that would be the decision of the Commission. It was noted because the gates would be located on the property and would not prohibit private landowner's access to his/her own property, locks would be allowed. What is essentially blocked is vehicular traffic through the parcel.

It was noted a statement would be made at the Town Council meeting that the Commission intends to follow through with placement of locks on the gates. Chairman Tenhave stated he and Commissioner Lehman would

arrange a meeting with the Town Manager to gain her input and, if so desired, arrange for legal review prior to presentation to the Council.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Creation of a strategic Beaver Plan for Merrimack

Commission to review current beaver activities and discuss creating a proposal for hiring a professional to help the Town create a strategic plan for managing Beaver within the Town of Merrimack. Plan to include both Conservation and non-Conservation Town parcels.

Chairman Tenhave informed the Commission he and Commissioner Perry met with the Eileen Cabanel, Town Manager, Rick Seymour, Director of Public Works, and Adam Jacobs, Operations Manager, Public Works Department to discuss the beaver situation in Town. Together they mapped out the various locations within Town where beaver issues are being addressed. He stated his goal for the meeting was to educate the parties on the extensiveness of the problem as well as associated costs, and to try to gain an idea of how to address the problem long-term. What came out of the meeting was a recommendation the Commission move forward with trying to create a comprehensive beaver plan for the Town. The intent would be to have a clear understanding of what the activity is that is currently taking place and where the Commission would like to head in terms of management and how to accomplish that.

Chairman Tenhave asked for volunteer(s) to spearhead the effort. He stated there to be a need to hire a consultant, which would require a Request for Proposal (RFP) be prepared. Commissioner Perry stated his agreement with putting out an RFP to gain assistance from someone who understands beaver habitat and can identify areas that should be addressed. Councilor Mahon stated he could query the municipal manager's list to find out if there are any management plans in other areas. Chairman Tenhave stated his appreciation and noted NH Fish & Game should be contacted as well. Commissioner Perry offered to assist with the effort, but noted he is coming up upon a busy time and would require assistance. Commissioner Thomson volunteered to assist.

Chairman Tenhave remarked if an RFP were put out in January, responses could be anticipated in the March timeframe. He noted Mr. Jacobs has a binder of information on activities that have occurred over time.

2. Annual Review of the Commission's Finances and Funds

Commission to review its two different Conservation funds, the HHNP fund, and the Conservation Portion of the Community Development Department Town Budget. Recommendation for a change to the Town Budget to be discussed along with any other budget/fund items the Commissioners may want to bring up during this review.

Chairman Tenhave noted the conservation line item (01-21-8393-0) within the Town's budget comes under the Community Development Division. A handout provided depicted the current (FY14) budget as well as input provided the division for use in the proposed FY15 budget. The proposed changes results in a bottom line figure of \$4,143 for FY15 (FY14 was \$3,200).

It was noted prior year's budgets were in excess of \$10,000. A notable change is the removal of conservation scholarships (\$300 in FY14). Chairman Tenhave stated the allocation has not been utilized for a number of years, and it is his belief, if the Commission desires the ability to provide a scholarship, it could be funded out of the conservation fund. Another change is the addition of Web Hosting Services (\$150 FY15 proposed). The proposed budget would cover the cost of hosting and domain registration. Education and training (\$400 in FY14) and Seminars and presentations (\$420 in FY14) have been collapsed into one line item (\$400 proposed for FY15). Councilor Mahon questioned how the cost of preparation of meeting minutes is being covered. Chairman Tenhave was unsure, and stated he could pose the question. The proposed FY15 budget now accurately reflects the costs associated with the Lakes Lay Monitoring Program (\$200 budget in FY14 and \$1,688 for FY15).

Chairman Tenhave informed the Commission of his receipt of report for the prior five years for both Naticook Lake and Baboosic Lake. They are in electronic form and available on the Town server. Commissioner Perry suggested a link be added to the Town's website.

Vice Chairman Caron stated a desire for mapping to be identified as a line item with some funding allocated towards it so that an individual could be hired to provide maps. Commissioner Perry agreed. Chairman Tenhave stated that activity could be funded through the Conservation Fund (Fund 51). The suggestion was made that an RFP could be put out for mapping of the various parcels.

The Commission stated agreement with the input provided for the budget.

The Commission reviewed the accounting of the past few fiscal years up through June 30, 2013 for both Fund 51 (Conservation Fund) and Fund 53 (Land Use Change Fund). An accounting has since been provided on the Horse Hill Nature Preserve Fund, which indicates a balance, as of this day, of \$429.74. Chairman Tenhave informed the Commission of his receipt of a check from 3C Race Productions for \$129.00, which will be added to that balance.

Chairman Tenhave stated a desire to conduct the financial review in October of next year to allow the Commission ample time to provide budgetary input to the Director of Community Development in advance of deadline for providing information to the Town Manager.

3. Alternate member to the Horse Hill Nature Preserve Sub-Committee

Commission to determine if it wishes to have alternate members on the HHNP Sub-Committee and to potentially appoint Amanda Yonkin as an alternate member.

Chairman Tenhave spoke of a letter received from Amanda Yonkin indicating a desire to serve as an Alternate member of the Horse Hill Nature Preserve Sub-Committee. Ms. Yonkin was a member of a group called the Friends of Greens Pond, which spearheaded the bond drive and approvals through the Selectmen to go forward with the purchase of what is now known as the Horse Hill Nature Preserve. She was appointed by the Selectmen to the Greens Pond Master Plan Committee, which then became the Horse Hill Nature Preserve Master Plan Committee. She also served as part of the Horse Hill Nature Preserve AdHoc Committee prior to the acceptance of the Definitive Plan.

She is an abutter to the Horse Hill Nature Preserve (HHNP), and is very familiar with the property. Chairman Tenhave questioned the will of the Commission, e.g., meet with and interview the candidate or simply make an appointment. He noted there are no Alternate positions currently on the committee.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CARON TO APPOINT AMANDA YONKIN AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE HORSE HILL NATURE PRESERVE SUB-COMMITTEE FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE JULY 31, 2016 MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER PERRY MOTION CARRIED 6-0-0

Chairman Tenhave commented there had been a question raised regarding Charlie Hamilton's appointment. He was appointed in May of 2012. The signature sheet (previously required) was located, and indicated he signed on as an alternate member although no alternate members were in place at that time. Chairman Tenhave stated his belief Mr. Hamilton is a full-time member. He requested, should Vice Chairman Caron discuss the matter with him and determine his intent was to be an alternate member, he be made aware.

4. Bridge project near Beebe Lane access point for Grater Woods

Commission to review and potentially vote on a bridge proposal near the Beebe Lane Access point to be done by the Grater Woods Sub-Committee. This is a project noted in Appendix E, 1.b. of the Grater Woods Stewardship Plan.

Vice Chairman Caron informed the Commission Appendix E, 1.b of the Grater Woods Stewardship Plan identifies this project; bridge at the bottom of Beebe Lane. It is located just outside of the cul-de-sac that crosses the stream, which runs towards Baboosic Lake. It is a 24' (long) x 3' (wide) bridge. A quote was provided by Reeds Ferry Lumber in the amount of \$439.12 to cover all material costs. When asked, he stated there to be no need for railings (1' off ground). Abutments will be dug in and flush with the ground.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LEHMAN TO ACCEPT THE PROJECT AS PROPOSED MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILOR MAHON MOTION CARRIED 6-0-0

OTHER BUSINESS

• Dumpling Brook Wildlife Management Area (State owned Land)– Gates to prevent OHRV access

The forestry project has wrapped up, and the State intends to block off all areas where 4-wheel drive and OHRV access has been seen going onto their property. They have made arrangements to also block the parcel adjacent to it, which is owned by a utility company.

Lock Boxes

Chairman Tenhave stated the lock boxes recently purchased were not similar to those already in use. One had been installed before this was discovered; however, the remaining four will be returned and the correct style purchased.

Vice Chairman Caron requested installation of a lock box at Conservation Drive be postponed until a kiosk is constructed. Commissioner Perry commented they are more stable when placed on something flat. Chairman Tenhave stated agreement.

Grater Woods Trail project update

Chairman Tenhave questioned whether Vice Chairman Caron had an update on the RFB approved by the Commission for re-grading work. Vice Chairman Caron responded he requested he be informed when the contractor made contact with the Forester; however, to date, has not heard back from Bay State.

Commissioner Lehman stated he reached out to the contractor who informed him he has not been contacted by anyone at the Town to inform him he was awarded the contract. Chairman Tenhave stated he had requested the Finance Department notify the winning bidder and go over billing requirements. He would then like to see Bay State, who was approved to manage the project, get the project going. Commissioner Lehman remarked the contractor mentioned it might make it more difficult to perform the project this time of year. Chairman Tenhave commented it is extremely dry at this time and would be a good time for the project to commence, if access can be arranged through the school. The consensus of the Commission was a desire to see the project completed as soon as possible. Chairman Tenhave informed the Commission he would reach out to the Finance Director and request the Finance Department follow through with contacting the winning bidder as well as Bay State to get the process started.

Vice Chairman Caron noted the school piece (closer to the soccer fields) is in worse disrepair than the area being addressed. He questioned who should be contacted at the school to see if there is interest in retaining the contractor to do that work. Vice Chairman Caron was asked to provide a description of what needs to be done so that Chairman Tenhave could draft, on behalf of the Commission, a letter to the school district.

• Property Purchase

Chairman Tenhave spoke of the small rectangular piece of property located along the Souhegan River near the High School, which was purchased by the Commission earlier this year. The intent was to provide educational opportunities and preserve the area along the river, but it was also to provide for the Town loop trail to pass through it. Currently being discussed with the School Board is a Scout project to complete part of the loop trail.

Vice Chairman Caron informed the Commission the Life Scout who has proposed this trail project is a member of the track team. Part of the impetus for this project is to create a means for the track team to get over to Wildcat Falls. There is currently a trail that runs underneath the F.E. Everett Turnpike and sort of dead ends at the school's property. The proposal is to complete that trail going from the dead end piece under the turnpike, cross the Commission's parcel, and up towards the school. The project would include a low bridge to cross a seasonally wet area. In the area near the power lines there is an existing sandy trail, which runs close to the water. The proposal calls for a trail to be placed significantly higher on the slope. The trail would access an existing trail in the area near the top of the baseball field.

Chairman Tenhave commented, when the parcel was purchased, the intent was for the trail to be put in. He questioned whether the Commission wished for the Scout to make a formal presentation and request permission

Merrimack Conservation Commission 11/18/13

to cross onto the property or if the Commission was acceptable to the Chairman simply providing a letter of support for the project.

When asked, Vice Chairman Caron stated he has gone over the project with the Scout and is pleased with the proposed layout. He added, there is an existing trail, which is not preferable, and the Scout would be providing one that is. The consensus of the Commission was for the Chairman to forward a letter of support.

Hillsborough County Conservation District 67th Annual Meeting

Chairman Tenhave informed the Commission the Annual Meeting would be conducted on Wednesday, December 11, 2013 beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Barn located at 117 Old Wilton Road in Milford, NH. He requested Commissioners interested in attending make him aware so that the fee can be paid.

PRESENTATION OF THE MINUTES

The following amendments were offered:

Page 1, Line 57; replace the word "building" with the word "lot" Page 2, Line 17; replace "1977" with "1997"

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TENHAVE TO ACCEPT AS AMEDED MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILOR MAHON MOTION CARRIED 4-0-2

Commissioners Lehman and Thomson Abstained

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Vice Chairman Caron informed the Commission the Horse Hill Nature Preserve Sub-Committee conducted a trail project (improvements) the prior Saturday, and thanked the many volunteers who participated. At the conclusion of the project, he utilized the motorized wheel barrel to assist in constructing a rock wall at Grater Woods (near the gated access off of Conservation Drive).

Commissioner Thomson informed the Commission of a Wildcat Falls Sub-Committee meeting conducted the prior week. The Sub-Committee appointed Karen LaBonte as Chairman. An individual currently in the process of moving into Merrimack has expressed interest in membership on the Sub-Committee. Commissioner Thomson stated a letter of interest has been requested and will be provided to the Commission when available. The major point of discussion during the meeting was the creation of a trail map.

Chairman Tenhave stated the next meeting of the Commission to be scheduled for December 2, 2013. The Grater Woods Sub-Committee, when appointed, was asked to appear before the Commission at its first December meeting to discuss future plans and gain input from the Commission. He noted it is not necessary for the entire Sub-Committee to be in attendance; however, he is hopeful the Chairman and some of the representatives will be available to attend.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER PERRY TO ADJOURN MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER THOMSON MOTION CARRIED 6-0-0

The November 18, 2013 meeting of the Merrimack Conservation Commission was adjourned at 8:57 p.m.