

MERRIMACK CONSERVATION COMMISSION
DECEMBER 15, 2014
MEETING MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Merrimack Conservation Commission was held on Monday, December 15, 2014 at 6:34 p.m. in the Merrimack Memorial Conference Room.

Chairman Tim Tenhave presided:

Members of the Commission Present: Matt Caron, Vice Chairman
Michael Boisvert
Cynthia Glenn
Gage Perry

Members of the Commission Absent: Lauren Kras, Alternate
Councilor Thomas Mahon
Robert Croatti, Alternate

Also in Attendance: Donald Chagnon, Townsend Oil & Propane
Katherine Basso, Keach-Nordstrom Associates, Inc.
Nicholas Coates, Executive Director, NHACC

Chairman Tenhave noted Alternate Member Kras was unable to be in attendance.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

Mr. Nicholas Coates, Executive Director of the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions (NHACC) stated a willingness to allow the Commission to amend the agenda to take up Statutory/Advisory Business in advance of Appointments to allow the Applicants in attendance the opportunity to conduct their business.

There being no objection the Board went out of the regular order of business to take up Statutory/Advisory Business.

STATUTORY/ADVISORY BUSINESS

1. Don Chagnon of Townsend Oil & Propane (applicant) and Frank Twardosky (owner)

Review for recommendation to the Planning Board of an application for a waiver of site plan review for the use of the existing 3,400 s.f. building as a retail/office/distribution facility located at 759 D.W. Highway in the

I-1 (Industrial) and Aquifer Conservation Districts. Tax Map 7E, Lot 042-01.

Mr. Donald Chagnon, Partner, Townsend Oil & Propane, noted the property was formerly known as Stone Works and Stone Tables. The Applicant is seeking to utilize the property as an office facility for a retail heating oil and propane distribution point doing HVAC work, which falls under the I-1 zoning regulations. Mr. Chagnon remarked there is available parking for approximately 40-50 vehicles. The only changes being proposed are three parking spots for one propane delivery vehicle and two oil delivery vehicles. All other aspects are existing.

The main use of the property will be for the office. Vehicles will go in and out just as they did with the previous tenant. Mr. Chagnon remarked he is unfamiliar with the process of the Commission, and was looking for guidance.

Chairman Tenhave noted the Commission was in receipt of a copy of the narrative as well as the Site Plan. He remarked the Commission is tasked, by the sub-division regulations, to review projects, particularly when they fall within the Aquifer Conservation District. The job of the Commission is to provide a recommendation. When reviewing projects that fall in the Aquifer Conservation District the Commission is typically looking at items such as landscaping, fertilizer use, snow removal/storage, deicing compounds, and things that impact water such as drainage, drainage structures, distances to wetlands, etc.

Chairman Tenhave commented mention was made there would be no changes with the exception of the addition of three parking spots. He questioned if they would be paved, and was informed the area is already paved. Mr. Chagnon noted the facility is currently closed, and has become a location for dumping, e.g. items such as sofas have been disposed of on the property. The Applicant intends to clean the area. Beyond that, none of the landscaping will be impacted. Chairman Tenhave noted there is a large area of gravel heading north towards the Bedford line. Mr. Chagnon commented part of the area is fenced in; however, was left open. That area is all sand, and no changes are planned. He stated his belief snow would be plowed into that area.

Chairman Tenhave remarked the previous tenant was doing stone cutting in the back resulting in material leaking into the wet area, which lead to problems. Mr. Chagnon stated he is not familiar with the entire situation; however, was a bit surprised when he entered the facility and noticed the cement had been sloped and the drains cut right into the floor. He commented he has been in the oil and propane business for 35 years and one thing you don't do is drain anything out especially when cutting stone, etc., as the oils that are used cause an issue.

He stated they would not be cutting anything in the back storage area. They also do air conditioning and heating, and that is the area that will be used for storage of items used to replace boilers, furnaces, etc. When asked if the floor drains would be closed off, he responded he has not done anything with it. It has pretty much been filled back in with cement, but it was not done professionally. He stated there is no intent to put anything in the area that would leak down those drains. Chairman Tenhave stated his only concern was that the drains are no longer functional. Mr. Chagnon stated they would not be functional.

Mr. Chagnon remarked the area is completely paved, and provides room to park a lot of vehicles. The prior tenant had approval for 9 and the need will be for 12. Three were placed in an area that is furthest from the street. The vehicles will be picked up in the morning and returned in the evening. The loading facility is offsite.

When asked, Mr. Chagnon reiterated what will be parked onsite are two oil trucks and one propane truck. They are home delivery vehicles not transport vehicles. Service vehicles will go home in the evenings with the service technicians. Vice Chairman Caron asked for clarification that the vehicles being stored onsite overnight may or may not be full. Mr. Chagnon stated that to be the case. He noted in order to get oil out of the truck it would have to be pumped.

When asked if there is curbing in the back area, Mr. Chagnon stated there is not, and remarked one of the things he was going to suggest is the placement of small jersey barriers in the area. The area is relatively level though it slopes slightly back towards the center of the property likely as a result of drainage.

Commissioner Perry noted there is a brook running behind the property. Mr. Chagnon stated the area where the trucks will be parked is paved and approximately 60' above the area of the brook.

Beyond cleaning the area, he has not proposed any changes; however, is open to suggestions for plantings, etc. He remarked there will be work done on the building as it is in disrepair, e.g., replacement of boards, etc. He stated the willingness to place plantings to improve the appearance. When asked if retail sales would be conducted out of the office, Mr. Chagnon stated the office will be open for customers to pay their bills, individuals wishing to sign up to become customers, etc. It will not be retail in the sense of purchasing items to take home. The building is intended to house two employees working in the office, a salesperson, Mr. Chagnon, two technicians, and two drivers.

Chairman Tenhave stated the Commission always recommends plantings that are native to New Hampshire. Mr. Chagnon commented he believes the area needs some dressing up in the front and along the fenced area. He would only utilize native plants.

Mr. Chagnon stated no vehicle maintenance would be performed onsite. With regard to the issue of salt/de-icing compounds, Mr. Chagnon stated he only uses sand. There is no need to salt. If there is the need to address a walkway area, salt free material is used.

Commissioner Perry requested the Commission recommend native plantings only, preference for low-phosphate, slow release nitrogen fertilizer, snow removal, and that the use of de-icing compounds be minimized, and applicators are Green SnowPro Certified.

Chairman Tenhave noted the Commission has been advising applicants who prefer to utilize fertilizers in their landscaping that they first have the soil tested to see if there is the need to add amendments to the soil, and that the Commission prefers slow-release nitrogen and no phosphates or low-phosphates. Mr. Chagnon commented, in its current state, there are no grassed areas.

2. Kathleen & Carlyle Hatfield and Richard & Christine Hatfield (co-applicants/co-owners) Review by

request of and recommendation to the Planning Board of an application for a Lot Consolidation and Lot Line

Adjustment Plan located at 9 and 11 Autumn Lane and 44 and 46 Greenwood Road in the R-1 (Residential)

and Flood Hazard Conservation Districts. Tax Map 6A-1, Lots 069, 070, 098 & 099.

Katherine Basso, Keach-Nordstrom Associates, Inc., stated the Hatfields currently have four (4) existing parcels, and wish to do a lot line adjustment and consolidation to turn them into two parcels. The property consists of two principal residences and a vacant camp (will be taken down).

Approval has been received from the Merrimack Planning Board, with conditions. One of the conditions was to appear before the Conservation Commission. Ms. Basso reiterated the project consists of converting four lots into two, which will make the lots more conforming, and will provide full access to the right-of-way on Greenwood Road, which is currently an easement.

Commissioner Boisvert questioned whether the building referred to as a camp has an existing leach field. Ms. Basso clarified there is no leach field for the camp. The septic system onsite is for the occupied residence and is not in the vicinity of the camp. When asked if there are any plans to expand the driveway, she stated there are not.

Vice Chairman Caron questioned whether the lot line shown at the bottom of the map provided is located on Baboosic Lake, and was informed it is.

Chairman Tenhave stated he reviewed the minutes of the Planning Board meeting and the conditions of approval. He did not note any particular area/issues the Board wished the Commission to review. Where there are no site plan improvements being proposed with the exception of the removal of an old structure, he was of the belief there was nothing in particular for the Commission to address.

The Commission determined there were no concerns or recommendations to be forwarded.

The Commission returned to the regular order of business.

APPOINTMENTS

1. Visit with Nicholas Coates, Executive Director of the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions (NHACC)

The Commission to have a visit with Mr. Coates to discuss the NHACC and related items.

Mr. Nicholas Coates, Executive Director, NHACC, addressed the commission. He stated the NHACC is the only organization that is specifically dedicated to working with conservation commissions. The NHACC is a non-profit entity. There are 234 municipalities in the State of New Hampshire, 216 of them have conservation commissions. The goal of the NHACC is for every municipality to have a conservation commission. Beginning next year the Town of Roxbury will become the 217th municipality. Membership in the NHACC can be dependent on the economy. Currently membership is 190-200. The NHACC represents the commissions in many different matters.

1 Mr. Coates stated his desire not only for each municipality to have a conservation commission, but for all of them
2 to be members of the NHACC.

3
4 He remarked there is a great deal the NHACC has to offer members. There are three areas of assistance that
5 either no one else provides or that the NHACC simply does better; education, technical assistance, and legislative
6 work.

7
8 This year the NHACC conducted its 44th Annual Meeting at which numerous presentations are made. Those
9 presentations are available on the website. Anyone viewing the presentations and having a particular interest
10 and/or questions can contact the NHACC to be put in touch with the presenter. This year's theme was engaging
11 young conservationists. The average age of members on a conservation commission is 80-85.

12
13 The NHACC will be focusing a great deal of its efforts in getting younger people involved. Efforts are centered
14 around teaching conservation commissions how to engage younger people and identifying where younger people
15 want to be involved. Field training series sessions were conducted this year. One of the two most successful
16 was in Merrimack and centered around beavers. Tracy Tarr, a new member of the NHACC, worked with the
17 Merrimack Conservation Commission on that series, and is interested in conducting another. Mr. Coates
18 commented, he heard from members in Milford recently who spoke of having learned a great deal during that
19 series.

20
21 Technical assistance comes in a lot of different forms. Having been around for 44 years, the NHACC has vast
22 experience in conservation matters. If addressing an issue they have not yet experienced, they know where to go
23 to acquire the necessary information. Commissions look to the NHACC for advice on matters such as how to
24 utilize the conservation fund in easement projects, whether or not to permit hunting on Town property, etc. The
25 NHACC typically receives about 10 calls a day.

26
27 The website is being revamped. The existing member section will be boosted over the next 6 month. Members
28 will be provided logins to gain access to items such as scope of work for a natural resources inventory, etc.
29 Commissions undertaking such work agree to share their efforts with other members through this medium. Mr.
30 Coates spoke of a recent conference call with a Wetland Scientist who provided a list of about 20 questions that
31 conservation commissions should be asking applicants. The website will be improved through the additional of
32 such items.

33
34 With regard to the legislative work, Mr. Coates remarked if not for the NHACC, conservation commissions would
35 no longer be in existence. There have been many attempts over the last couple of years, and another coming in
36 the next few weeks, to eliminate conservation commissions. A study Bill was proposed last year that looked at
37 how conservation commissions and land trusts work together and whether or not they should be allowed to work
38 together. Another was looking at what do conservation commissions do; should they exist. The Bill being
39 proposed this year is a lot more aggressive. The NHACC is trying to get to the bottom of the issue of why it is
40 being proposed. It is being proposed by a Legislator in a nearby community. It is a concern, and one that is
41 unfortunately seen every single year. They will continue to make the case every year about why conservation
42 commissions are a value.

43
44 Mr. Coates remarked not only does the NHACC represent conservation commissions in the State House, but it
45 appoints representatives that serve on a number of key committees such as the Wetlands Council, which handles
46 grievances, the Current Use Board, which sets the rates for timber tax, and the State Technical Committee, a
47 USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, which is very focused on grant funding that comes from the
48 Federal Government to the State. The NHACC is also on the State Conservation Committee, which does a great
49 deal most may not know about, one of which is determining who gets funded for the moose plate. The NHACC
50 also has an appointee on the Rivers Management Advisory Committee.

51
52 Mr. Coates spoke of two Bills that were going after conservation commissions during the last legislative session,
53 both of which were killed. There was another the NHACC worked on that was very successful, SB388. This Bill
54 was signed by the Governor. He explained about every ten years or so the Forrest Society, Nature Conservancy,
55 and other organizations such as the NHACC propose to do a very deep look at how conservation is done in the
56 State of New Hampshire; how it is funded/not funded, is conservation working/not working, what is protected that
57 should be/what is not protected that should be, etc. The Committee worked over the summer for 3-4 months
58 meeting once a week, with 30-40 organizations and State agencies testifying. A report was developed (on the
59 website). The base report is about 12 pages long with about 150 pages of appendices. The recommendations
60 that came out of that committee included continued funding of the Land and Community Heritage Investment

1 Program (LCHIP) as it is an important funding source for conservation work. The recommendation was for a
2 Constitutional amendment to ensure LCHIP isn't raided as has been the case in the past to cover budget
3 shortfalls. LCHIP is a grant program that predominantly funds conservation easement projects.

4
5 One of the key findings was that only 7% of the State's drinking water supply is protected. The report included a
6 good deal about how to target efforts across the State to do a better job of protecting drinking water. Another was
7 around how to protect working lands so that farmers aren't priced out of it. Another relates to conservation
8 commissions and how we encourage conservation commissions to leverage additional resources with their
9 conservation fund.

10
11 Three or four of the key recommendations that came out of that study are now Legislative Service Requests
12 (LSRs). An LSR is basically a one sentence placeholder that a Legislator submits that says I have an idea. It is a
13 placeholder for when the language of the entire Bill gets put forward working with Legislative Services. Presently
14 all of the LSRs are being submitted by the Legislators. He remarked as of this morning there were about 850
15 submitted. LSRs can be viewed at http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/lsr_search/LSR_Results.aspx.

16
17 Mr. Coates remarked there are approximately 40-50 that he is watching that could potentially impact conservation
18 commissions. There are a few that are most definitely in play that could be bad for conservation commissions;
19 2015-S-0896-R - Relative to the powers of conservation commissions, 2015-H-0150-R - Allowing municipalities to
20 dedicate a percentage of timber yield taxes to the conservation fund, and 2015-S-0516-R - Establishing a
21 commission to develop a land conservation plan. Mr. Coates spoke of 2015-H-0410-R - Designating the Ham
22 Branch watershed in Easton as a protected river and exempting the Ham Branch watershed from the
23 comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act.

24
25 Mr. Coates spoke of another project currently underway; the Tennessee Gas Pipeline Project pipeline project.
26 Chairman Tenhave noted the NHACC has not taken a stand on the project. Mr. Coates remarked, at this point,
27 they are evaluating. In talking with one of his senior board members (on board for 20 years), he learned the
28 NHACC has never taken a position on anything during his time on the board. Mr. Coates commented he is still
29 evaluating and gathering information. He remarked it is not the role of the NHACC to dictate what is important in
30 a community. What is important is to help the community find information to make informed judgments that make
31 sense for the community.

32
33 He commented he does not believe it to be a project that is cut and dry, good or bad. Like every major energy
34 project, in his opinion, there are pluses and minuses; it is a matter of evaluating what the greatest benefit is. He
35 added what might be good for one community may not be good for another.

36
37 Chairman Tenhave stated his agreement. He remarked the NHACC providing information and assisting in the
38 facilitation of connections between commissions is a good benefit. He stated his hope the board does not take a
39 stand on the project either way. Mr. Coates remarked he does not suspect it will. He commented it is also a
40 resource issue. The Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions has a staff of 4 or 5 and multiple
41 partners who are on this issue. The NHACC cannot match that capacity. He commented there is legislation
42 being proposed by a Representative from Hollis around eminent domain of this project. The NHACC is evaluating
43 that as well and whether that is an appropriate step. It is his belief that is a better use of their time; to look at
44 things that would potentially impact all conservation commissions.

45
46 Mr. Coates stated the NHACC will pull together a regional meeting after the New Year. He commented where the
47 NHACC has been slow is evaluation. The other is there are other conservations that are typically their partners
48 who have a different point of view on the project. As an example, one of the organizations is really just focused
49 on ensuring the pipeline does not go through conservation easements. He does not believe that to be the best
50 strategy as it only serves to pass the buck onto some other property owner.

51
52 Chairman Tenhave noted he provided Mr. Coates with a copy of the Annual Survey, which was done during a
53 meeting of the Commission and expresses the thoughts of the Commission.

54
55 With regard to efforts to gain youth involvement, Chairman Tenhave spoke of the tremendous support provided by
56 Eagle Scouts. He noted after Grater Woods was mostly acquired the Commission hired Jeff Littleton of
57 Moosewood Ecological, LLC to perform a comprehensive study of the entire Town. As part of his contract Mr.
58 Littleton conducted a walk about; a Saturday where the citizenry was invited and spent time at three parcels
59 identifying characteristics, etc. Commissioner Perry spoke of the Logs to Lumber educational opportunity that

1 took place as the result of a small forestry operation that was needed in a spruce section. During that operation a
2 number of spruce logs were taken down and milled onsite.

3
4 The Town has a school program that takes students to Washington, D.C. each year. The Commission historically
5 has put on events for those students who, for whatever reason, are unable to attend that trip. This past year, the
6 program put on was the Logs to Lumber. The logs were cut and stacked in a pile accessible to the school yard.
7 The kids were brought out in groups to watch the cutting take place. The amount of wood that was gone through
8 in the course of two days was stunning. That wood was used in the construction of the Outdoor Classroom, a
9 number of signposts, etc. The Public Works Department has also utilized a good deal of that wood around Town
10 for different projects.

11
12 Mr. Coates remarked the NHACC hired a Program Manager. Her job is to build up the education effort and
13 communications. Through communications they are trying to tell the story of conservation commissions. They
14 recently met with the Farmington Conservation Commission, a very active commission. They were asked to
15 provide a one-page write-up, which will be featured in the monthly newsletter. He suggested the Commission
16 might be willing to provide information on efforts conducted over the past few years.

17
18 Mr. Coates spoke of having received e-mails from Dunbarton and Pittsfield indicating their desire to conduct a
19 wood bank; essentially do a timber harvest and then set aside some of the wood for people in need of wood for
20 home heating. They will be watching how their program proceeds. Chairman Tenhave commented the
21 Commission has had instances where they have had available logs. A wood bank is another option that could be
22 explored. Vice Chairman Caron stated there is wood currently available. The Commission attempted to do
23 something similar last year without success. Mr. Coates suggested if information is forwarded it could be sent out
24 to recipients of the newsletter. Chairman Tenhave commented there is the need to be mindful of what they do as
25 the land is public land. Town leaders will be interested in what is occurring.

26
27 Mr. Coates remarked the NHACC has a list of topics being considered for the field training series. They are
28 partnering with the UNH Cooperative Extension, which has about 7-8 organizations that will offer the same
29 sessions every year. In addition the NHACC is looking for other opportunities for offerings.

30
31 Chairman Tenhave spoke of other educational opportunities that have been provided students as part of the stay
32 behind program such as raptor day, owl day, vernal pool party, etc. Mr. Coates spoke of plans for the NHACC to
33 conduct a vernal pool session, and suggested the Commission may want to include a vernal pool party.

34
35 Chairman Tenhave commented he has attended the NHACC Annual Meeting for three of the past four years, has
36 noticed the age of the board has changed over time, and the new President is from Amherst. He questioned
37 terms, etc. Mr. Coates responded up until a few years ago appointments on the board were essentially lifetime
38 appointments. The former President had been on the board for 20+ years. Another member has been on for
39 even longer. Up until this year there was a 9 member board, four of which came from three communities all next
40 to each other. This year resulted in some turnover. Mr. Coates remarked one of his goals is to have a board
41 member in every county. The board is now 1 shy of being able to do that. There are two board members whose
42 terms are ending. The only county not currently represented is Coos.

43
44 The three things he wanted to accomplish this year relative to the board were; look for younger members, gain
45 hard skills with members, and diversify the geography and membership. The board now has a licensed forester,
46 a certified wetland scientist, a geologist, an economics professor, a land use lawyer, etc. The Board President
47 decided not to run for another term and agreed to move into an immediate past president position. As a result,
48 the Board currently consists of 10; five women and five men. Mr. Coates spoke of the desire for the board to
49 have skillsets that could be offered to the commissions. There is also now a very strong legislative committee on
50 which three Legislators sit. Another area where work continues is in identifying other avenues by which to gain
51 revenues.

52
53 Chairman Tenhave spoke of the Commission's struggle with mapping of trails. He suggested it would be helpful
54 to understand how other commissions are addressing that issue. Mr. Coates responded there was a mobile
55 technology workshop conducted this year up at Tin Mountain, which was basically how to do mapping with your
56 iPad or cell phone. That will be offered again, and perhaps will include a piece on once you have the data what
57 you do with it. The NHACC has just purchased a GIS license. They will begin assisting commissions with
58 mapping. One of the new Board members is a Professor/Geologist at Colby-Sawyer College who teaches GIS.
59 She has stated she could make students available if commissions need mapping assistance.

When asked if commissions are doing paid or unpaid internships, Mr. Coates stated last year Marlin conducted a pilot study with interns where one of the rotations was with a conservation commission. The proposals that were provided by conservations commissions indicated the expectation for a lot more work out of someone who would be working for free than they probably should have and that they were not as organized as they could be. For example one of the commissions wanted the intern to go out and GPS/GIS a trail, clear it, and help build it. The NHACC has been working to identify what is realistic and more importantly which commissions really do have the capacity to do this. The internship would not be about free labor but about making it a meaningful experience for the intern. He remarked Marlin has a great job description for internship. If the Commission is interested he would be happy to share that. He also noted the New London Conservation Commission has an intern every year and does very well. It was noted the Board member who has the GIS background is the Vice Chairman of the New London Conservation Commission, and it may be worthwhile to reach out to her.

Mr. Coates was thanked for his attendance. The Commission offered to be of assistance for future events, etc. Mr. Coates commented he would love to see some ideas that urban conservation commissions and suburban conservation commissions can get onto. He reiterated if the Commission was able to provide a bullet-point list of some of its activities that would be helpful.

There being no objection, the Commission took a five-minute recess at 8:06 p.m.

The Commission reconvened at 8:13 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Beaver and Water Control Activities

Commission to review the current beaver and water control activities it has undertaken. Other activities may be discussed including some being taken by Town Staff. Action on funding current or new activities may also be discussed along with the ongoing comprehensive Beaver Management Study.

Commissioner Perry spoke of the quote provided for work to be performed on Hansom Drive (\$1,880) noting the Commission was surprised by the cost as it was believed the work would consist of pipe placement. In speaking with Beaver Solutions and GZA, he was made aware the change was to address the desire to keep the beavers in that pond. If a drain pipe were put in it would empty the pond. That was the reasoning for going from a fence, which would allow the pond to drain completely, to a leveling device.

While onsite, they were approached by neighbors who stated the desire for the beaver to remain. They were intending to drain the pond enough to keep the inlet side free of water, which would stop the beaver from trying to go up and dam that section of it. They will take it down a few inches so that, during times of high point, it is below that. There would not be standing water flowing through there.

Commissioner Perry stated he has not heard back regarding whether the Commission has the authority to conduct work within rights-of-way. He will follow-up.

It was noted GZA will be in attendance at the Commission's January 5th meeting, and will provide an update on the Beaver Management Plan. Chairman Tenhave stated the desire for representation from the Public Works Department at that meeting.

NEW BUSINESS - None

OTHER BUSINESS

- Annual Report and Upcoming Annual Meeting with the Town Council

Chairman Tenhave stated he expects to receive an invitation to attend a Council meeting in the month of January. He requested Commissioners wishing to bring forward ideas/thoughts for presentation to the Council is prepared to discuss those ideas/thoughts at the Commission's first meeting in January.

- Website: www.Merrimackoutdoors.org

Chairman Tenhave commented the website has been in place for at least two years, and should be reviewed for updating. He requested Commissioners give some thought to that in preparation for discussion at a future meeting.

- Joint Meeting

The Joint meeting with the Amherst Conservation Commission has been scheduled for January 11, 2015 in the Town of Amherst.

- Gas Pipeline Update

Chairman Tenhave stated the Town now has a link on its website where information can be obtained. The Town Council has taken no position other than to state any discussion will occur in public to allow the citizenry to be as informed as possible.

- Finance review

Chairman Tenhave stated information has been provided from the Finance Department. The review will be scheduled for a January meeting. Some of that information will be incorporated into the Annual Review to be presented to the Town Council. Financial information will also be included in the Annual Report.

PRESENTATION OF THE MINUTES

Merrimack Conservation Commission. November 17, 2014

The following amendments were offered:

- Page 2, Line 43; add a "." after the word "Commission"
- Page 5, Line 40; replace the word "on" with the word "for"
- Page 5, Line 43; add the word "of" between the words "impression" and "their"
- Page 6, Line 11; add the word "are" between the words "trails" and "within"
- Page 6, Line 30; replace "muds" with "muddled banks"
- Page 6, Line 31; replace "bam" with "dam"
- In all instances where it appears, replace "Hanson" with "Hansom"

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER BOISVERT TO ACCEPT AS AMENDED
MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER PERRY
MOTION CARRIED
5-0-0

Merrimack Conservation Commission. December 1, 2014

The following amendments were offered:

- Page 3, Line 1; replace "cottontails" with "cattails"
- Page 5, Line 20; replace "Milford Conservation Commission" with "Regional Open Space Team (ROST)"

Commissioner Perry noted costs associated with the seedling giveaway include the cost of shipping to the office of the local County Forester as well as tax. As a result, the total cost of the event will be \$422.00. The event is scheduled for Saturday, May 9th.

Chairman Tenhave stated the event would be conducted at Currier Orchards, and will need to be supported by the Commission. He requested Commissioners look to be able to schedule some time to participate.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CARON TO ACCEPT AS AMENDED
MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER PERRY
MOTION CARRIED
4-0-1

Commissioner Glenn Abstained

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Perry spoke of the level device placed in Mitchell Woods. He noted one of the things that had been noticed with the higher water there was no migration of animals back up along the stream because the sides were so mushy. The water level is down almost a foot. In two weeks' time more migration back along the stream up in the Grater Woods and back is being seen.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER KRAS TO ADJOURN

MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CARON

MOTION CARRIED

5-0-0

The December 15, 2014 meeting of the Merrimack Conservation Commission was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Submitted by Dawn MacMillan