



# Town of Merrimack, New Hampshire

Community Development Department

6 Baboosic Lake Road

Town Hall - Lower level - East Wing

Planning - Zoning - Economic Development - Conservation

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## MERRIMACK CONSERVATION COMMISSION

APRIL 7, 2014

### MEETING MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Merrimack Conservation Commission was held on Monday, April 7, 2014, at 6:34 p.m. in the Matthew Thornton Room.

Chairman Tim Tenhave presided:

Members of the Commission Present: Matt Caron, Vice Chairman  
Ron Davies  
Thomas Lehman  
Gage Perry  
Simon Thomson (arrived at 7:07 p.m.)  
Michael Boisvert, Alternate  
Lauren Kras, Alternate

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

Also in Attendance: Life Scout Benjamin Parker, Troop 48  
Kyle Fox, Deputy Director/Town Engineer, Public Works Department  
Wade Parks, W.A. Parks, LLC

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*Chairman Tenhave appointed Alternate members Michael Boisvert and Lauren Kras to serve as voting members.*

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

### APPOINTMENTS

**1. Eagle Project** – Life Scout Benjamin Parker

To present an observation deck proposal at Grater Woods. The deck to overlook a beaver pond at Grater Woods.

Life Scout Benjamin Parker stated the project to be the construction of an observation deck in Grater Woods overlooking one of the beaver ponds off of Beebe Lane. The land traverses upward, and the area of high ground is ideal for overlooking the pond. The intent is to construct a 10' x 10' deck. Life Scout Parker projected an image of the proposed deck and explained it would rest on six (6) cement footers, which would be pressure treated along with all decking. Pressure treated was recommended by the contractor he has been working with given the intended location (woods).

When asked if the footings would be dug in, he stated that to be the intent. He noted he has not yet acquired information on frost line regulations relative to depth (the plan depicts 3' as a placeholder). It was suggested the depth would be 4'. When asked if the front board would be at ground level, Life Scout Parker responded it would. When asked whether the front side would be open, he stated he continues to debate that as he has the desire to include benches. He may consider a half wall. When asked how far off the ground the deck would be (off water side), he stated it would be approximately 20" to the footer (in the back). It was stated the boards under the structure, along with the frame (outline) would be 2 x 8s.

Chairman Tenhave questioned whether any kind of signage, e.g., information board, plaque, etc. would be included in the project, and commented a board such as built by, with the help of Troop 48, etc. would be welcome. Life Scout Parker spoke of the Eagle Scout project (Pergola in Watson Park) completed by his brother, Joseph, and commented although his brother did not erect a plaque, someone did. Chairman Tenhave suggested it could have been the committee that erected the plaque.

When asked, he stated his fundraising effort will consist of a pancake breakfast and advertising on social media, through word of mouth, and e-mail to members of the troop. Chairman Tenhave commented if he were included in the e-mail notice, the information could be posted to the Commission's website.

When asked if consideration was given to placement of benches on the sides, Life Scout Parker responded he has, and continues to debate how benches will work out. It will definitely be considered as when he first envisioned the observation deck, he imagined it also serving as a resting place for walkers. Commissioner Perry stated the need to be aware users of the deck will lean against/sit on the railings. It is important to carry the posts all the way down the structure. Vice Chairman Caron commented the addition of benches could alleviate users sitting on the railings.

When asked where he is in the approval process, Life Scout Parker responded it is necessary for him to gain a recommendation from the Commission to the Town Council. If approved by the Council, they will sign off on his workbook. He can then go before the Eagle Board for approval. Once approved by the Eagle Board, construction could begin. When asked if the workbook is completed, he stated a good deal of it is completed. He will look to add the description of the benches. When asked if he would like a member of the Commission present for the presentation to the Town Council (April 17, 2014), Life Scout Parker stated he would very much appreciate that support. Commissioner Perry suggested he be prepared to explain how he intends to sink the posts. He remarked, in that area, it would be tough to dig by hand. Chairman Tenhave suggested utilizing rebar to test the spots before beginning the digging process.

When asked if the proposed project has been discussed by the Grater Woods Sub-committee, Vice Chairman Caron stated it was discussed when the sub-committee was out performing work on the bridge below the area where the deck is proposed. Those present agreed the project would be advantageous. The only recommendation that was made was for benches.

***The consensus of the Commission was to forward a positive recommendation to the Town Council.***

As a member of the public was present, and wished to address the Commission, Chairman Tenhave opened the floor to public comment.

Wade Parks, 41 Peaslee Road

Speaking with regard to the Gateway Trail Stabilization project, noted he was notified of being the successful bidder by the Finance Department. However, no further information was provided. It had been left to him to contact the school, etc. Time marched on, other projects were ongoing, and the winter weather came in very quickly. When learning the Commission would be discussing this project again, he wished to present himself. He remarked he has walked the job site on two occasions and has put in approximately 6 hours in measuring, etc.

Chairman Tenhave stated the Commission would be discussing the project later in the agenda. He stated his impression a miscommunication occurred last year with regard to who should be initiating contact, etc. Chairman Tenhave stated he would be suggesting a larger project than originally anticipated. Mr. Parks commented it would be favorable to conduct the project during school vacation, if feasible. Chairman Tenhave noted if the scope of the project changed, it would likely be re-bid.

STATUTORY/ADVISORY BUSINESS

1. **Wetland Permit Review**—Review of a wetland permit 2014-00678 for a bridge project on McGaw Bridge Rd. Kyle Fox, Town Engineer to explain the project and wetland impacts.

Deputy Director Fox stated Chairman Tenhave requested he come before the Commission to speak regarding the McGaw Bridge Road project given review of the wetland permit was before the Commission.

The McGaw Bridge Road Bridge over Baboosic Brook was built in 1940. It is a jack arch style bridge, which means it is small steel beams with concrete in between the beams in mini arches. It sits on concrete abutments and a concrete footing. The bridge is currently posted at 20 tons, due primarily to problems with the deck itself and the fact there is some undermining occurring underneath the existing footings (currents of the brook have scoured some of the soil away from under the footings).

He is working with the consultant through the State Aid Bridge Program (State covers 80% of costs for design and construction and the Town pays 20%). The design calls for increasing the span of the bridge from its current approximate 23' to about 46'. The new bridge will be an eye beam bridge with concrete deck. It will have concrete abutments and concrete footings. The footings will be founded right on bedrock. One of the issues discovered when doing the borings was that the bedrock was actually a few feet deeper than existing footings. The new stream channel will be flat on the bottom and come up on a 2:1 slope. There will be heavy stone protection to prevent scour. At the bottom of the brook a sandy material will be put down to aid in the passage of aquatic creatures.

Commissioner Perry questioned whether there would be a riprap base. Deputy Director Fox stated there would, and explained it is not laid in place; the excavator puts it in and presses it into place. The channel will be a very similar design to that at the Wire Road Bridge. It is hoped construction will begin this fall when the water is low. Across the current bridge are a water line and a sewer line. They are both currently unprotected. With the new bridge, the water line will be 45 up to sit inside the girders so the water line will be protected. That luxury does not exist with the sewer line because that flows on gravity. Being added is a steel beam in front of the sewer line to protect it from trees that might be flowing down the brook, etc., and damaging the sewer line.

When asked about wetland impact, Deputy Director Fox stated there to be just over 3,000 sq. ft. of permanent impact and another 1,495 sq. ft. of temporary impacts. Permanent impacts are associated with the excavation of the existing embankments around the bridge (because of widening) and where the stone riprap is being put in along the channel of the bridge itself and wrapping around the slopes into the wingwalls. Temporary impacts are in the area outside of the finished product where the excavator needs to be working. That will all be put back with natural material to mimic the existing condition.

When asked if the Town uses retaining walls and plantings for erosion control, Deputy Director Fox stated what the contractor will likely do, because the new abutments are behind the existing abutments, is take off the superstructure, which is the beams and concrete deck, likely leave the existing abutments in place to act as their coffer dam and dig behind there, and then from the ends of the wings will do some sort of coffer dam whether with steel sheet piles or some other method to keep the construction activity separate from the brook so that we don't get any erosion in the brook. They will probably add silt fencing and silt booms to keep the erosion out of the brook itself. They will build the new abutments behind the existing abutments, and once those are done and they start to get their stone back into shape they will tear down the existing abutments down below the level of the existing rock. It may be that the existing footings stay in place, but they would just be buried and no one would ever see them. The project duration is anticipated to be between 9-12 months. It is hoped work on the footings can begin in the fall when water is low. Depending on the severity of the winter weather, work will either continue or be put on hold, which would increase the project duration into the following year.

Commissioner Perry questioned whether a camera could be put up to capture the work being performed such as was the case when the dam was removed. Deputy Director Fox stated that has not been proposed. Commissioner Perry spoke of the positive feedback received when the project was able to be viewed online. Deputy Director Fox remarked he is unsure what the infrastructure requirements would be and whether or not that could occur with this project; however, noted a good deal of information/photos of construction projects are posted to the Facebook page, Merrimack DPW.

Chairman Tenhave stated the Commission has the ability to comment on the Wetland Permit and provide recommendations to the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES). He questioned whether there are items the Commission would like to express concern over or recommend. Commissioner Perry spoke of the amount of information and completeness of the package provided. Commissioner Kras remarked she would have been concerned if the Natural Heritage Bureau (NHB) had said there would be an impact to endangered species, but it is clearly stated there is no impact expected.

***The consensus of the Commission was to inform NHDES the Commission has no questions/concerns related to the project.***

*Commissioner Boisvert relinquished his voting privileges upon the arrival of Commissioner Thomson.*

#### OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Grater Woods**—Forestry Project, Emergency Lane and Gates along South Grater Road  
Commission to discuss where we are with installing gates per the Grater Woods Stewardship Plan and the creation of an emergency lane. Discussion to include the nearby forestry project, location for the gate, and timeline along with some options that have come to light.

Chairman Tenhave commented the Commission discussed this at its March 3, 2014 meeting. It was determined the Sub-committee would review the project and discuss it with the Forester. Vice Chairman Caron informed the Commission questions were posed of the Forester and the exchange resulted in a learning opportunity. The hope was that the forestry project could fund or partially fund the cost of improvement of South Grater Road. It was determined the project would likely not cover all costs associated with the road improvement. It was learned the area desired, is likely not the most suitable place for a landing. The Sub-committee will be reaching out to a neighboring parcel to determine whether their landing would be available for use. The Forester will be conducting due-diligence on that issue, and reach out to Amherst to speak to them about a corner that would be difficult to navigate with a log truck.

Chairman Tenhave commented he was aware they were going to look at the road surface, from South Grater Road to Wilson Hill Road, to ensure it would be adequate to support trucks. The other side is coming in from the Amherst side and through. There is a corner/bend in the road that is tight. He questioned whether a particular Commissioner would like to help drive the discussion with Amherst. The project cannot move forward unless an acceptable means of entrance/exit can be identified. Ideally, upon project completion, that road would become the basis of emergency access to the west side of the property. Improvements made would help support the D3 trail and provide the opportunity for logging on that side of the beaver pond as well.

Commissioner Perry asked for clarification entering from the Amherst side would allow for more work to be completed. Chairman Tenhave stated it would. He explained work could be performed closer to Millipede and Centipede trails. Commissioner Perry stated a concern with the possibility of Amherst choosing to put up gates on their property, which would eliminate the emergency access. Commissioner Lehman stated, on a Class VI road, gates have to be left open. He stated his recollection Chairman Tenhave had intended to speak to a representative from Amherst during the time they were constructing the parking lot, and questioned whether he was able to. Chairman Tenhave stated he has met some of the members of the Amherst Conservation Commission. He noted his offer to contact them came at the Grater Woods Sub-committee meeting. Commissioner Lehman remarked Chairman Tenhave had requested permission to speak with the Amherst Conservation Commission. Chairman Tenhave stated his recollection to be a request for Vice Chairman Caron to speak with the Amherst Conservation Commission in general as a way of opening the lines of communication. Vice Chairman Caron stated it was that discussion that brought a member of the Amherst Conservation Commission to the Sub-committee meeting. Commissioner Lehman stated his impression Amherst was not open to the installation of gates. Vice Chairman Caron agreed they do not want a gate on their property.

Chairman Tenhave reiterated in order to bring logging trucks into the site it is necessary to make an adjustment on the corner. A review of parcel ownership identifies one owner as the Town of Amherst. It is his belief it would be prudent to go to the Conservation Commission and speak to them first about what it is the Commission would like to do; establish emergency access and accommodate a forestry project, and see if they have any qualms about an adjustment to the corner. He stated his belief the decision is ultimately with the Amherst Board of Selectmen. From the Deeds it appears the parcels are owned by the Town.

Vice Chairman Caron commented the conversation at the Sub-committee was if we use the Wilson Hill access we could perhaps decrease the impact and size of the road improvement that goes out to the Amherst side, because it would be built for woods trucks/fire access, and would not have to accommodate fully loaded log trucks. Chairman Tenhave stated he thought there would be a discussion with Bay State Forestry as to the requirements for the road and that they would be requested to provide an information packet so that accurate information on the scope of the project could be provided to the Amherst Conservation Commission.

Chairman Tenhave remarked consideration is being given to creating D3; therefore, that section to South Grater Road that goes through the beaver pond area could theoretically be discontinued if the desire were to do so. Once discontinued it could be gated. That would have to be an action of the Town Council. Discontinuing the

road would eliminate traffic going through the property and into a wetland. There would still be access around the pond through D3 being established as part of the forestry project.

The Commission reached consensus that was the most favorable approach to take. Vice Chairman Caron agreed to drive the discussions with Bay State and the Amherst Conservation Commission. It was noted the road, in its current condition, would accommodate emergency access. The decision was reached to obtain the necessary information from Bay State before contacting the Amherst Conservation Commission.

Commissioner Boisvert questioned whether the Commission should contact the abutter in the house at the end of Grater Road. Vice Chairman Caron commented, haven spoken with representatives from Amherst, he is aware the abutter was greatly impacted during the time the parking lot was being put in. He suggested the Commission ensure the abutter is fully aware of any activity in the area. It was noted the project would be on hold until information is received from Bay State.

Chairman Tenhave questioned the will of the Commission with regard to the concept of closing off South Grater Road and gating it. Commissioner Perry commented if that is the desire of the Commission, it would be necessary to gain approval from Amherst to alter that corner/bend to accommodate access by log truck(s). Chairman Tenhave stated the thought to be to utilize D3 to come through and then go south as opposed to west. Vice Chairman Caron added whatever is cut west could be skidded to the landing. There would be no need for a log truck. Commissioner Perry commented that would make D3 a substantial trail (skidder wide), and would change the intent of the trail. Commissioner Lehman suggested it could be made an A trail at that point.

## **2. Gateway Trail Stabilization Project**

Commission to discuss the direction to take related to the project put on hold late last fall.

Vice Chairman Caron stated the project consisted of stabilization in three locations; near the corner that heads towards Wildlife Opening 1 (area is degraded), up the hill out of Gateway Opening 1 (long stretch), and down the hill heading towards wildlife Opening 2/ that goes by View Trail. Commissioner Perry stated his impression an area going out towards Beebe Lane from Wildlife Opening 2 was added. Vice Chairman Caron stated that is part of the section that goes past View Trail. Commissioner Boisvert remarked there is a section there experiencing high flow. He suggested the culvert underneath could be plugged (heading towards Beebe Lane from Wildlife Opening 1; the first culvert). Vice Chairman Caron explained it is not a culvert but rather a stone ford. Commissioner Perry stated the culvert is buried deep and was supposedly one of the original steel culverts. Although he has never seen it Dan Cyr, Bay State Forestry, has stated it is there. The entire opening on the outlet side of that pond is supposed to be a stone ford.

***The Commission recessed at 7:31 p.m.***

***The Commission reconvened at 7:41 p.m.***

Chairman Tenhave asked for confirmation the Commission is in agreement the prior project was for three (3) locations. General agreement was voiced. Chairman Tenhave stated the project was put out to bid last year and awarded; however, due to the onset of winter weather, the project was not performed.

Chairman Tenhave questioned whether the Commission wished to increase the scope of work at this time. He stated concern Gateway Trail, especially coming out of the school property, has not really been maintained; sides likely need mowing, etc. He spoke of comments made last fall regarding areas of that trail that also need stabilization. Vice Chairman Caron stated that to be accurate.

When asked if the desire was to look towards a project that would encompass both Commission property and school property and perform all required maintenance and stabilization, the Commission voiced agreement.

Chairman Tenhave questioned the funding mechanism. Commissioner Perry remarked if funded through Commission funds, the project would not be directly taxpayer funded. From the taxpayers' perspective, it would be cost avoidance. Chairman Tenhave clarified the Land Use Change Tax monies are tax monies not paid until land comes out of current use. He commented he suspects there is no funding in the school budget to cover the costs; however, he does not know that for certain. Vice Chairman Caron suggested the question be posed.

Chairman Tenhave questioned the will of the Commission with regard to postponing the project until a discussion could take place with the School Board. Commissioner Lehman questioned the position of the Sub-committee, which was formed to address issues related to Grater Woods. He suggested the Sub-committee should be

driving the issue and making a recommendation to the Commission. Commissioner Kras stated her belief this project began prior to the formation of the Sub-committee. Commissioner Perry commented he would agree except for the history of the relationship between the Commission and the School Board.

Commissioner Lehman remarked there was a project ready to go, which is still ready to go. Commissioner Perry stated a willingness to reach out to the school to see if the work could be performed in concert. He commented he would not want to stop the Commission's project if the school is not interested in participating. Commissioner Kras stated discussing the issue with the school would also provide additional time to look at potential grant sources that might assist with the cost. Commissioner Perry agreed and added the educational aspect could assist in that endeavor. He reiterated his desire not to allow the current project to be stopped.

Chairman Tenhave questioned whether the will of the Commission was to continue with the current project as defined and consider the other aspects as a secondary project. Commissioner Lehman spoke of the amount of time expended on the development of the RFP, etc., and suggested the project move forward, and that the Commission looks to address other areas as a separate issue. He spoke of the fact a member of the Sub-committee is also a member of the School Board, and can relay information. That being the case, he is of the opinion there is no need for further meetings with the school.

Commissioner Kras stated her opinion it makes sense to move forward. However, noted with the amount of snow and rain, it would not make any sense to put materials down in the next month. She suggested that time be used to talk to the School Board to ascertain whether a larger project can be completed and savings achieved as a result, e.g., economy of scale, grants, etc.

Commissioner Lehman stated the Commission has discussed approaching the School Board for several months. Chairman Tenhave stated his understanding when the project was first discussed the School Board was approached, and, at that time, there was no interest. He stated a desire to take a more formal approach with the School Board, which is why he put Item #1 under New Business on the agenda.

Vice Chairman Caron noted Mr. Parks stated he would prefer not to start the project until school was out. There is time. Commissioner Perry added the Forester has instructed not to start the project until mud season is over.

Chairman Tenhave questioned whether it is the consensus of the Commission not to move forward with the project as originally defined until the completion of mud season. Commissions stated their agreement. Commissioner Lehman questioned whether the intent would be to continue with the same contractor. Chairman Tenhave responded "at this point, yes". Commissioner Lehman remarked the contractor was not made aware he was the winning bidder until approximately a month and a half after the contract was awarded. He was never contacted by the Forester. No one contacted him to inform him the project would be postponed until this year. Chairman Tenhave apologized for the process. Commissioner Lehman responded his comments were not intended to reflect on the Chairman, but rather to stress the importance of communication. Chairman Tenhave stated his intent to put the item on an agenda at the end of May for further discussion.

## NEW BUSINESS

### **1. Collaboration with the School District**

Commission to discuss having a joint meeting with the Merrimack School Board to discuss common interests related to Grater Woods, Wildcat Falls Conservation Area, and other areas where the groups can cooperate for the enrichment of Merrimack.

Chairman Tenhave remarked there are times where the business of the Commission overlaps with that of the School District. Prior interactions have been somewhat informal. He questioned whether there is interest on the part of the Commission to visit with the School Board. He noted the two groups meet on the same evenings. Meeting with the School Board would allow for discussions around the places where the groups overlap and could assist one another. An example provided was Grater Woods where there is mutual property; they own the property and the Town owns the easement.

Technically, the School Board does not have a Liaison on the Grater Woods Sub-committee. The member of the School Board who happens to also sit on the Sub-committee is not authorized by the School Board to speak for them at those meetings. It was the Commission that appointed that member to the Sub-committee not the School Board. Chairman Tenhave stated an interest in understanding how the School Board wishes to speak about Grater Woods issues, e.g., formal path, utilizing the School Board member who sits on the Sub-committee to

relay information back and forth, through the school administrator, etc. With regard to educational items, he would like to understand if there are things the School Board wishes the Commission could assist with. There may be ways in which grant monies could be leveraged to help both causes.

He questioned whether there is interest on the part of the Commission to meet with the School Board and introduce the subject. He noted he had a discussion with the School Board Chairman, Chris Ortega, who thought it was a good idea for the Commission to come speak to the School Board and make them aware of work of the Commission in areas where there is commonality.

Commissioner Davies stated his belief it makes great sense to communicate with the School Board. Commissioner Kras spoke of the benefits that could be gained by relaying information on upcoming projects so that should the instance arise where a request needs to be made relative to school property to further a project, how the request fits into the larger plan would already be understood. Commissioner Perry commented the two entities accomplished a great deal together when working cohesively, and he would appreciate the opportunity to do so again. Commissioner Thomson remarked the more communication the better. Chairman Tenhave commented the process would introduce new thoughts and ideas. Commissioner Perry noted there is a formal Memorandum of Understanding with the School Board to allow the Commission access to their property. Vice Chairman Caron stated he has been communicating with a member of the Technology Department at the High School regarding the possibility of students providing the labor to build the two remaining kiosks. This formal process would make those efforts much easier.

The desire expressed was for the entire Commission to attend a meeting of the School Board. Chairman Tenhave stated he would speak with the Chairman regarding getting on their agenda.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

- Blandings Turtle Study Update

Chairman Tenhave spoke of the study conducted last year on the Horse Hill Nature Preserve. During the study various turtles were looked at. The survey was conducted from June 17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> and consisted of a visual survey and the use of some live capture traps. Traps were checked every other day, all turtles were measured, marked (V notch placed on their shell) and recorded and then safely released where they were caught. What was seen for species were 460 painted turtles, 2 snappers, 7 blandings, and 5 spotted. Trapped were 50 painted, 7 snappers, 3 blandings, and no spotted.

- NRPC GIS and Trail Work

Chairman Tenhave stated the Nashua Regional Planning Commission (NRPC) website has been completely redone. On their website is a link to the GIS maps, which include a good deal of information including trails. He spoke of a recent Brown Bag Symposium conducted by the NRPC on the GIS system, and commented there will likely be another in the next few months, which will likely also take up trail work. The NRPC is interested in collecting GPS coordinates for trails. He suggested it would be an easy task to undertake should any Commissioners walking the trails be interested in turning on their GPS and submitting the information. Mentioned at the meeting was that the State is considering new aerial photos. The basis of their current GIS system goes back to the granite system (photos dating back to 2009).

The NRPC is trying to put together a trail committee for which he volunteered so that Merrimack will be represented. He stated a willingness to provide the opportunity to any member of the Commission desiring to serve in such a capacity.

- Beaver Management Study Update

Commissioner Perry stated the Request for Quote (RFQ) is out. The opening will be May 5<sup>th</sup>. Chairman Tenhave noted he has not seen it posted online. Commissioner Perry will look into when it will be posted. The RFQ was sent to eight potential bidders. Chairman Tenhave remarked Nick Coates, Director of the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions assisted in identifying who the RFQ could be forwarded to. Commissioner Perry commented he has been in touch with a few individuals who are interested in seeing how the process works. If it works well others would like to consider utilizing it as a model for other plans. Chairman Tenhave remarked the Commission should plan on reviewing quotes at its second meeting in May.

- Presentation on Pennichuck Brook Watershed Restoration Efforts

Chairman Tenhave informed the Commission he did not have in his possession the presentation he wished to share. He stated Pennichuck Corporation recently sold easements to some of their properties to the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests. There are quite a few acres that now have easements. Some study work was conducted and provides information on restoration efforts that have been and are being done as well as some of the sampling and testing being performed. Some of the testing has been on phosphates and other things of interest to the Commission. He remarked he thought the results were quite telling in some places, and he wished to highlight some of that information. The item will be placed on a future agenda.

He noted a presentation was provided to the Planning Board in the last month or so, and is well worth watching.

- Wasserman Conservation Area – Annual LCIP Property Walk and Report

Chairman Tenhave stated the need for the Commission to conduct its annual walk and reporting on the property. Commissioners Davies and Kras stated a willingness to perform the task. Chairman Tenhave commented, if a majority of the Commission is interested in attending the walk, he will ensure it is posted properly. A date for conducting the walk will be discussed at the next meeting.

#### PRESENTATION OF THE MINUTES

Merrimack Conservation Commission. . . . . March 3, 2014

*The following amendments were offered:*

Page 5, Line 55; remove “31<sup>st</sup>” following the word “July”.

The information relative to quotes for signage is not a necessary attachment to the minutes as the information is already public.

#### **MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TENHAVE TO ACCEPT AS AMENDED**

#### **MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LEHMAN**

#### **MOTION CARRIED**

**6-0-1**

*Commissioner Davies Abstained*

Merrimack Conservation Commission. . . . . March 17, 2014

#### **MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TENHAVE TO ACCEPT AS PRESENTED**

#### **MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER PERRY**

#### **MOTION CARRIED**

**5-0-2**

*Commissioners Davies and Kras Abstained*

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

#### COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Vice Chairman Caron commented the signs are completed, and will be put up shortly. He stated his pleasure with the product received.

Commissioner Perry remarked last year was an active bear season (summer), and it is probably a good time to take down the bird feeders. He reminded users of the trails, if muddy underfoot, please avoid the trail until the end of mud season.

Commissioner Kras spoke of the Lake Massabesic Audubon Center's celebration of Earth Day taking place in Auburn on Saturday between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. The celebration will include a live frog show, reptile, show, etc.

#### ADJOURNMENT



**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER PERRY TO ADJOURN  
MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CARON  
MOTION CARRIED  
7-0-0**

*The April 7, 2014 meeting of the Merrimack Conservation Commission was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.*

Submitted by Dawn MacMillan