

NORTHFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
March 21, 2012
MINUTES

Members present: Patty Howe, Dave Krause, Cathy Thibeault and Rich Bellerose.

Minutes: Patty Howe moved, seconded by Dave Krause to accept the minutes of February 23, 2012 with correction. Motion passed.

Land acquisition: Rich Bellerose spoke again with the landowner who would like to subdivide the property, keeping 30 acres and sell the rest to the town at a reasonable price. Members talked at length about the cost of a survey and subdivision, whether to offer a lower price and pay for the costs or a higher price and have the landowner carry the costs. Planning Board approval of the plan and Selectmen approval of the purchase is needed before any transfer can occur.

The property in question is an appropriate parcel to consider as it includes a portion of the Knowles Pond watershed with a large wetland area. The parcel has a wildlife corridor, a heron rookery and it would allow continuation of the existing trail system on the Knowles Pond Conservation land.

After further discussion, Cathy Thibeault moved, seconded by Dave Krause to offer \$800/acre for all acreage above the 30 acres retained with the seller being responsible for survey and subdivision expenses. This offer is conditional upon Planning Board subdivision approval and Selectmen approval. Motion passed.

PB & ZBA applications: None submitted.

Correspondence:

- DES – Mark Hebert, Timber Harvest notification
- DES – Bean Hill Road wetlands approval
- DES – Drinking Water Source Protection workshop
- LGC – Local Officials workshop

Other: Cathy Thibeault suggested that there should be a picnic table at the Granite St. property. Will look into the costs of a metal or wooden one. The planned fence has not yet been installed. Measuring and price estimates will be done before the next meeting.

Trail maintenance and painting of the kiosk at Knowles Pond is scheduled for April 21, 2012 at 9 am. Clean up and trail maintenance at Smart Conservation Area and Granite St. will be April 28, 2012 at 9 am.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Eliza Conde, Secretary

Minutes approved 05-23-2012