

Allenstown Conservation Commission

Date: Wednesday, October 12, 2005

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Allenstown Town Hall

Minutes

The meeting began at 7:10 pm

Commissioners Present: Jenna Gray, Al Heavey, Ethan Hipple and Laura Bonk (Note: A. Heavey arrived at approximately 7:30 pm and Ethan Hipple left at approximately 8:15 pm).

1. Approve the minutes of the 09/14/05 meeting.

An error was noted: “*However, it was not formally opened*” is incorrect. Motion to approve the minutes of 09/14/05 as amended by E. Hipple, seconded by J. Gray. The motion passed unanimously.

- 2. Announcement:** 4 sets of Natural Resource Inventory Maps received from Friends of the Suncook River. The Allenstown Conservation Commission purchased these maps. It was discussed that 1 set should be for the Allenstown Selectmen and 1 set for the Allenstown Planning Board. It is possible to copy these maps for interested members of the public. A nominal fee will be charged for the copying expenses.

3. Welcome to Allenstown Signs

J. Gray reported that she had received clearance from DigSafe for the sign locations.

Action Items:

- ✓ J. Gray will follow-through with Jim Boisvert (Allenstown DPW) and Armand Verville for the installation of the signs.

4. Budget

J. Gray attended the Selectmen’s meeting in September. The selectmen are suggesting that \$10,000 for a conservation easement should be a warrant article and not part of the general budget. There was some discussion as to whether or not this would pass town vote. Many people in Allenstown do not understand what a conservation easement is.

5. Gas Pipeline Repair Project—Confluence of Suncook and Merrimack Rivers.

Representatives of Tennessee Gas Pipeline (an El Paso Company) will contact L. Bonk when the work is set to begin. L. Bonk will be present if it is feasible.

6. 2 Albin Ave. Cartop Boat Launch

The commissioners discussed at length the citizen’s concerns about this project. The commissioners do not anticipate more than 3-4 cars at any one time. It was discussed whether this launch should be limited to Allenstown only residents. L. Bonk received a phone call from an Allenstown resident asking if the selectmen were concerned about the cost of the project. It was clarified that the cost is a few hundred dollars and that is not the concern. J. Gray reported that the Allenstown Selectmen do not want a deed search done by the Allenstown town attorney at this time. There was discussion about a warrant article. The warrant article would solidify public support to preserve public access to the parcel (fishing, hiking, wildlife watching, and launching cartop boats). The issue of a warrant article will be discussed further at the next meeting. It was also discussed that due to the Hooksett Banner articles some members of the public may believe

that they are not allowed access to the parcel. Since the parcel is not posted “No Trespassing” this is not true.

7. 14 Albin Ave. illegal discharge into the Suncook River.

L. Bonk sent the photos and a letter to NH Department of Environmental Services (DES). The residents of 14 Albin Ave. were copied on this letter as well as Allenstown’s Code Enforcement officer. A representative from NH DES interviewed one of the witnesses and performed a site visit. NH DES will follow-through with the compliance.

8. Map 112-Lot 4, formerly Allenstown owned land

There was a long discussion regarding a former Allenstown owned land located behind School St. The tax parcel number is Map 112-Lot 4. L. Bonk summarized the conversations with town residents who are concerned how this parcel was transferred to an individual without notifying the abutters. L. Bonk shared emails between Kelley Collins (town administrator) and her. Supposedly this parcel changed ownership in 1992 although it continued to be report as a town-owned parcel.

Action Items:

- ✓ L. Bonk will follow-through on this issue with Kelley Collins. L. Bonk will seek to understand how and why the parcel changed ownership.
- ✓ J. Gray will contact Kelley Collins to verify that all the town owned parcels listed in the *2004 Allenstown Town Report* are actually still owned by Allenstown.

9. Review, Process and Distribute Mail Received

Letters/Announcements/Newsletters were received from:			
<u>Date</u>	<u>Sender</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Action</u>

10. Confirmed Next Meeting:

- Wed., November 9, 2005, 7:00 p.m., Allenstown Town Hall