

# Swanzy Conservation Commission

## Minutes

November 10, 2009

Members present: Michael Day, chair, Mike Morrison, Gary Coburn, Bob Goodrich, Steve Stepenuck, Deb Crowder  
Excused: Paul Daniello, Jane Johnson

### 1. Guest: Grace Lilly, resident, to discuss her following proposals:

1. Sawmill Road: would the Conservation Commission consider granting permission:
  - To my going before the Board of Selectmen to ask if the Swanzy DPW remove the invasive Russian olive growing on the town property abutting the Sawmill property?
  - To my providing the Commission with documentation that the land is the site of a large vernal pool?
  - To my creating a layman's natural inventory of flora and fauna of the Sawmill Road property that is verified by photographs?
2. Would the Commission give it blessing to my creating a layman's natural inventory of flora and fauna that is verified by photographs on town-held properties like Mt. Caesar?
3. Would the Commission consider asking the Board of Selectmen if the Swanzy DPW would remove (and continue to monitor and remove expected stump growth) of the invasive glossy buckthorn that grows at the top of Mt. Caesar and the many large glossy buckthorn trees at several Mt. Caesar entrances, especially the Carpenter Home? Buckthorn spreads quickly. It grows extensively on the land that abuts Mt. Caesar.

SCC action: Mike M. motions for approval of each request, all in favor. Michael D. will write a letter of support for Grace's proposals to the BOS. Grace offers to donate all of her services (thank you, Grace).

### 2. Committee Reports:

#### i. ARLAC (Ashuelot River Local Advisory Committee)

-Steve reports a meeting he had with Lisa Murphy of SWRP re: Ashuelot River Management Plan update on or about October 19. Discussed problems and goals re: Swanzy segment of river. SCC members suggested that more frequent and comprehensive monitoring, testing should occur in future to determine sources of poor water quality readings in river in Swanzy.

-Steve also mentioned that ARLAC is appreciative of the SCC's past support and contributions, more so than other river towns.

-Steve announced that the 2009 River Monitoring Report will be presented on 1/19/2010 to ARLAC.

#### ii. Swanzy Open Space Committee

-Deb showed postcard with Jeanne Thieme painting that will announce the completion of the conservation easement on Mike Johnson's Ridge Hill Farm.

-Deb showed OSC Oct. minutes that provided break-down of transaction costs and fees from the Monadnock Conservancy for the Domina Hewes Hill conservation easement project, detailing where the approved expenditure of conservation funds will be allocated.

-Deb announced the OSC is applying for a land conservation grant from the Quabbin to Cardigan (Q2C) Partnership to assist with fees for the Hewes Hill easement project. Tippin' Rock Farm will follow as a second fundraising effort to preserve those Domina properties.

#### iii. SWRPC (Southwest Regional Planning Commission)

-Mike M. attended quarterly meeting on 10/28 at Keene Public Library. Lisa Murphy announced recipient towns of Technical Assistance for Land Use Ordinances Grants (for groundwater, surface water protection and stormwater control ordinances).

-Mike told of OSP workshop scheduled for 11/18 at Fox Forest [www.nhwoods.org](http://www.nhwoods.org)

-Also, book "Good Forestry in Granite State Revisions", available through Karen Bennett, 862-4861, or at [www.goodforests.org](http://www.goodforests.org). Contains revised BMPs for logging and other forestry applications.

-Steve suggests town planning office should have a copy.

- Next SWRPC meeting 1/27/2010 KPL

#### **iv. Treasury Report**

-nothing to report at this time

#### **3. Camp Squanto Update**

-Michael D. reports a Nov. 6 email from Rob Hitchcock of SVE Associates, stating “the permit will be approved with the preferred layout according to Jay Aube. Thanks for your help.”

-Michael uncertain about the reference to “preferred plan”. Will reply to Rob for more information.

#### **4. Mt. Cresson trailwork**

-members and volunteers may resume work after deer rifle season (ends Dec. 15), conditions permitting, or will continue work in the spring .

-Steve had surveyed the trailwork so far and complimented it.

-Deb and Steve to do LCIP Annual Monitoring Reports before year’s end (send to Steve Walker, OSP) for Mt. Cresson and Honey Hill.

-Michael D. had copy of OSP Special 5 year Report on Honey Hill done in June, will file.

#### **5. Mail, Events**

-Michael read notice from NH Cooperative Extension Service, announced there will be no Barry Conservation 4-H Camp sessions in 2010 due to the need to upgrade and repair infrastructure at the facility.

-Michael announced NH Govt Law Center 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference Nov. 18 -20 at the Radisson in Manchester.

#### **6. Other Business**

##### **i. Stewards of Mt. Caesar**

-Michael received email from Theresa DiLuzio that signs for Mt.Caesar trail were installed.

##### **ii. DES correspondence**

-Shoreland Impact Permit, approved for Town of Swanzey on 10/16, for Homestead Dam removal in 2010.

-Permit Approval Notification: Alteration of Terrain permit for Cold River Materials, for Lane 2 Excavation Area 5, no objections.

-Letter of Deficiency WET 09-044, TM 16, L 20, dated 10/20; Arrowcrest Drive, Paul Thomas. Wetlands violations cited for construction of driveway in wetlands, disturbing 2,000 sf of wetlands, no permit obtained for work. Ordered to apply for Standard Dredge and Fill permit. Chris Brison, Wetlands Bureau.

##### **iii. Site Plans**

-Swanzey Planning Board Site Plan Application for Boundary Line Adjustment. Site map/plan by SVE. for TM 57 Lots 96, 97-1, 98, Peter Delaney (and Winn Johnson) properties off Railroad St. No information available on possible project.

##### **iv. Discussion**

-Steve and Deb initiated discussion about apparent cumulative, incremental encroachment into wetland area adjacent to former Robert Bergevin property, currently L & B Paving LLC, site TM 52 L 18 on Base Hill Rd.

-Michael to write letter to DES to convey SCC concerns and request investigation about this long term issue.

#### **7. Minutes**

-motion to approve October minutes, all in favor. September minutes pending.

#### **8. Adjourn.**

-meeting adjourned at 8:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Deb Crowder, secretary pro tem

