

**Town of Foxborough  
Conservation Commission Minutes  
November 7, 2011**

**Members Present:** Robert Boette (Chair), Allan Curtis (Vice Chair), Douglas Davis, Judith Johnson, Valerie Marshall and Eric Nelson (Clerk)  
**Absent:** James Marsh  
**Staff Present:** Jane Sears Pierce, Conservation Manager and Lee Ann Tavares, Secretary  
**Others Present:** See attached sign-in sheet

**Meeting Opened**

Bob Boette opened the meeting, held in the Andrew A. Gala Jr. Meeting Room, at 7:00 p.m.

**Reschedule Meeting**

Jane informed the Board that their meeting on December 5<sup>th</sup> is the same night as Town Meeting. Since the Andrew A. Gala Jr. Meeting Room is not available on December 12<sup>th</sup> or the 28<sup>th</sup>, the Commission will meet downstairs on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

**STM Warrant Article 9 Discussion**

Article 9 will be discussed at the Selectmen's meeting on November 8. A letter will be composed to rebut statements regarding the current Town Manager Act.

**September 26, 2011 Minutes**

**Motion** was made by Eric Nelson to accept the September 26, 2011 meeting minutes, as distributed; seconded by Allan Curtis. **Vote: 6-0-0.**

**October 3, 2011 Minutes**

**Motion** was made by Eric Nelson to accept the October 3, 2011 meeting minutes, as distributed; seconded by Allan Curtis. **Vote: 6-0-0.**

**October 17, 2011 Minutes**

**Motion** was made by Eric Nelson to accept the October 17, 2011 meeting minutes, as distributed; seconded by Allan Curtis. **Vote: 6-0-0.**

**October 27, 2011 Minutes**

**Motion** was made by Eric Nelson to accept the October 27, 2011 meeting minutes, as distributed; seconded by Allan Curtis. **Vote: 6-0-0.**

**Continued NOI, Beaumont Pond, DEP #157-499**

Eric disclosed that his daughter and Mike Rongione's daughter play on the same soccer team.

Applicants Mike Rongione and Sara McVeigh of the Beaumont Pond Homeowners Association were present, along with representative Will Stevenson of Lycott Engineering.

Jane gave Mr. Stevenson a copy of her Manager's Report containing issues that still needed to be addressed. She explained that the first issue was on the Wildlife Habitat & Vegetation Evaluation, which stated on page 4 that Curly leaf Pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*) was a "nuisance species." Since this is a native plant, Jane recommended against permitting native species eradication. Mr. Stevenson said that the applicant would provide an agenda of invasives to be controlled, along with a management and draw down plan. An educational brochure will be developed for homeowners (to be a condition in the Order).

Mr. Stevenson stated that there will be a maximum 32 inch drawdown and although the submitted maps show a drawdown of two and four feet, the drawdown will not exceed three feet. If more than three feet of water would be drawn down, they would need to have the Department of Fish and Game review and approve the plan. Four eight foot long stop logs will be slowly removed from

the dam to prevent excess flow downstream. Mr. Stevenson said that they were hoping for a deep freeze to kill some of the unwanted plant species. Work should be finished by December and they will re-establish the pond's level in January.

Bob asked if there would be enough water for the wildlife. Mr. Stevenson said that three feet was the acceptable level; anything over that would require the Department of Fish and Game's review.

Judi was concerned about the lake's residents who were not part of the Association, asking if they had been notified of the drawdown. Mr. Stevenson stated that a letter will be sent out after they receive the Orders of Conditions.

Jane read the following email received 11/7/11, from the Canoe River Aquifer Advisory Committee:  
"At its monthly meeting on November 3, 2011, the Canoe River Aquifer Advisory Committee voted to oppose any chemical treatment of Beaumont's Pond and is in favor of the proposed method of lowering the water level at Beaumont's Pond."

Jane stated that since the project is now a drawdown project, an updated NOI is required. A copy of the Pond Survey Protocols also needs to be submitted, since it was not attached as referenced on page 4 of the Management Plan (part of Wildlife Habitat document). As indicated in the Manager's Report, a Final Survey and Report requirement will be cited in the Order.

Mr. Stevenson asked the Commission for a five year term for the Order of Conditions. Val spoke in opposition to the five years and suggested three years, which could be extended as needed after that. Jane noted her concerns regarding the Subdivision's 1989 Order of Conditions, DEP #157-172, which requires a 50 foot natural buffer along the pond's edge. She recommended that the Beaumont Pond Association should immediately comply with their subdivision's Order, conditions 29, 40, 41 and particularly condition 40, which requires the 50 foot natural buffer.

Judi asked the Homeowner's Association members to give Jane the names of all new abutters.

**Motion** was made by Bob Boette to close the hearing, seconded by Allan Curtis. **Vote: 6-0-0.**

### **FY12 Goals & Objectives**

Jane presented her Goals & Objectives, as required by Kevin Paicos, for the Commission's review. Jane will modify it by adding the Commission's changes and suggestions, as discussed.

### **General Discussion**

Jane told the Commission that the Cocasset River bridge at Cocasset River Park is in poor condition and needs work. She also said that the gate across from the vegetable stand at Hersey Farm needed to be closed. The area is being hayed, so they might have intentionally left it open.

### **Oak Street Properties Discussion**, Lorraine Brue, Town Asset Review Committee

Cancelled due to illness; will reschedule.

### **Meeting Adjourned**

**Motion** was made by Val Marshall to adjourn; seconded by Eric Nelson. **Vote: 6-0-0.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Nelson, Clerk

Draft minutes submitted by Lee Ann Tavares: 1/9/12

Reviewed by Jane Sears Pierce: 1/31/12

Approved by Commission: 2/13/12

### **Documents Reviewed During Meeting**

1. Paper by Lycott Environmental “Lake-level Drawdown as a management tool for aquatic plants”
2. Beaumont Pond’s NOI filing document: “Wildife Habitat & Vegetation Evaluation” (received via email 10/31/11)
3. Final report received from Pare Engineering regarding completed wetland restoration work at 204 East Street.

Attached Documents:

4. Agenda, January 1, 2011
5. Meeting Sign In Sheet

Location of Other Documents:

6. Manager’s Report, filed in Manager’s Report binder in Conservation Commission’s office.
7. For the applications, reviewed above, please see Commission’s DEP file folders.