Dublin Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 9, 2011

Members
Present: Jack Lewis, Sterling Abram, Rusty Bastedo, Jerry Branch, Suzan Macy, Peggy Cappy

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM. The minutes of the meeting of December 8, 2010 were approved.

Sterling Abram reported that the Board of Selectmen received our memos on the two properties that they are considering selling. They plan to advertise the Old Troy Road property as subject to a conservation easement, the terms of which will be negotiated as part of any sale.

The commissioners discussed priorities for 2011. The commissioners will of course continue to support its base activities of monitoring conservation easements and development activities, and funding the Lake Host, water testing and monitoring of Dublin Lake and the water testing of Howe Reservoir.

With regard to newer initiatives, of most interest was to make another effort to start controlling Japanese knotweed on public property and to provide information to residents on infestations and good control practices. The commission expressed hope that it could get support from NH DOT, that we could develop someone who would get a herbicide spraying license, and that we could use volunteers from Phoenix House and/ or Dublin School in containment work.

The commissioners were also interested in continuing to use galerucella beetles to control purple loosestrife. We plan to concentrate the use of the beetles on a couple of spots on Mud Pond to see if concentrating them will result in more visible progress than we have seen so far.

The commissioners also wanted to support Jerry Branch and the Monadnock Rotary Club in their efforts to open up the Howe Reservoir property as a town park. The commissioners discussed potential names for the park, and agreed to recommend to the Board of Selectmen the name Dublin Rotary Park. Jack Lewis agreed to write the selectmen and Jerry agreed to make sure that no other approvals would be needed.

The commissioners decided that, rather than trying to have a monthly article in the Dublin Advocate, the commission would make sure to include the Advocate as a major conduit for information and publicity any time it had an issue or an activity to publicize.
Jack Lewis mentioned that the consulting engineers for the Charcoal Road bridge replacement project had asked for comment from the commission. After brief discussion, Jack agreed to respond saying that the Commission had no issues with the replacement project.

Jack also mentioned that the Commission’s 2010 Annual Report had been submitted, and that the Road Workshop had produced some interesting information.

Suzie Macy said that she would complete and send in a letter from the Commission to the Planning Board on the position of the Commission on the proposed ordinance revisions.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM. Next meeting is scheduled for April 13, 2011.