

**Minutes - Special Meeting
Tolland Conservation Commission
Thursday, February 25, 2010**

Since there were not any officers in attendance, the meeting was called to order by Dick Symonds at 7:15 PM with Commission members Cynthia MacDonald, Dorothy Mickiewicz, Gene Koss, Andrew Holl, and Dick Symonds in attendance. Linda Farmer was also in attendance for an information update.

Linda provided copies of the following documents:

1. A letter regarding Development Staff support to board and commissions outlining the current staff situation and impacts on staff services to be rendered
2. A letter from the Boy Scouts covering a request for a campfire at Campbell
3. A note from Ken Hankinson concerning the use of a campfire by the boy scouts at Campbell
4. The revised Knofla Plan
5. An information brochure on the Tankerhoosen River Watershed Management Goals by the Tolland Inland Wetlands Commission

Upon a motion by Cynthia MacDonald and a Second by Andrew Holl, Alternate Dorothy Mickiewicz was seated.

Campfire Request at Campbell, March 13th by Boy Scout Troop 2

Mike Shaw of Boy Scout Troop 2 of Tolland submitted a request for a campfire at the approved March 13th campout at the Campbell Conservation Area. Discussion raised issue with Campbell being the appropriate place for campfire but upon a motion by Cynthia MacDonald and Seconded by Gene Koss, the Commission voted to approve Mike Shaw's request for a campfire at the Campbell Conservation Area on March 13th as a one time exemption and approval is to be consistent with the management and safety criteria outlined in Mr. Shaw's February 24, 2010 request. The motion passed unanimously.

Furthermore a consensus was reached that in the future, requests by the Boy Scout troops for camping with open fires be considered for the Schindler/Schmidt property only which is a more appropriate location and where there has been past history of such use.

Sage Meadow Management Plan

There has been no significant change in status. The Commission's draft management plan is in the hands of Joshua's Trust. They will add their resource and wildlife information. When received the three person Commission committee will pursue directly a joint planning process with the Trust. Cynthia added there may be a significant opportunity for wildlife management at the site with techniques learned in a recent seminar. The

preservation of open meadow species should be incorporated into management plan goals. The State DEP may be able to provide technical assistance.

Invasive Plant Proposal

Ms. MacDonald outlined a scaled down and simplified proposed invasive species program for Children's Day to be held on May 8th from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. The current proposal would have a small maze with invasive species in pots for identification. Possible prizes for identification might include appropriate plantings. The Garden Path organization is being viewed as a possible participant. Also being considered is an invasive plant ID handout for home use.

Additional Information Sharing

The 2008-2009 annual report has been filed and will be circulated to the Commission. The Willimantic River Alliance will be conducting a walk this season along the river to include the King Property. The subject should be discussed at the next regular meeting.

By a motion of Gene Koss and seconded by Andrew Holl, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted for the Commission
Richard N. Symonds, Jr., Commission Member