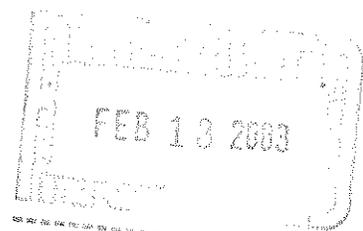


NEW BOSTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Jan. 23, 2003



**Members present:** Rebecca Balke, (until 8:00), Betsey Dodge, Deborah Keiner, Joe Taggart, Burr Tupper; and Mary Carol Schaffrath.

Minutes of Jan 9, 2003 meeting read, edited, and accepted;

**Treasurer's Report** - \$ 39,259.68 and ? In the bridge fund. (Info on bridge fund not available.

**Recreation** - Winter Carnival - CC discussed the fact that trail maps are on the New Boston website. Rebecca presented us with a map done by a friend of hers who worked with the GIS software. Further discussion of maps, and details of maps to be decided upon at the Feb. 6, 2003 meeting. Joe Taggart to print maps for the use of Winter Carn. Activities.

**Open Space** - CC reviewed the brochure that Open Space will use to encourage people to put lands under easement or talk to town about donation or sale of lands. The town will allow OS to use their bulk rate postage. Burr to present the Warrant Article 6 at the Deliberative Session on Feb. 3, 2003.

**Mill Pond** - The withdrawal of Attorney Gordon is not yet formal, and he must file again.

**Skateboard Park** - Betsey has contacted Billy Barss about the location of the septic system near the old "coops" or white buildings, and Billy will contact Lee Brown with information found. CC discussed the pros and cons of the location near Depot Street. One of the disadvantages would be noise and bright lights that may bother residents who live nearby. The "coops" location is the number one choice.

Discussion of all members present about Depot St. location and whether CC would allow it if other locations do not work. Helen Castles had done a study on this location in 1997, and determined at that time that the soil was poorly drained, and it was indeed, a wetland. The following motion was made:

CC supports the Skateboard Park, but is not inclined to release the Depot Street location for the following reasons:

1. It is a wetland and poorly drained soil;
2. There are environmental concerns if trees are cut;
3. This is a conservation asset that should remain intact, especially because of its downtown location.

Burr made the motion, Joe T. seconded it and it passed.

**UNH students** - Eric Thum to meet with UNH students on Jan. 28, 2003 at 2:00PM. CC decided they should focus on the Saunders pasture area. Joe T. suggested a detailed

management plan for the Saunders pasture. A detailed plan would include logging, soil characteristics, history of land, geological history, land use history, identification of trees, mowing, seeding, and a detailed identification of the assets of the area. Also, propose trail layout, and a general use of the area. Joe T. to provide a template for the students to use. Eric, Joe N., and Betsey will meet with the students, and Betsey will ask them about standard expenses.

**Saunders Pasture** - no lengthy discussion. Betsey read a letter from Gordon Russell/PWA and Laurie Terwilliger. The letter referred to a walk done at Saunders Pasture in September, and what trees should be cut, etc.. The letter was written before the "Brontosaurus" work was done!

**RR Trail** - Joe connected with Bob Spourl, and they discussed the fact that horses may be using the small bridge on the Railroad trail. Cc discussed how the bridge would have to be built to accommodate horses, and CC decided to build it as planned and post a sign reading "foot traffic only". Horses would be walked through the culvert as before.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10PM.

Next meeting will be February 6, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,



Deborah Keiner  
Secretary

January, 2003