



*Handwritten initials and scribbles.*

Conservation Board Meeting Minutes, April 3, 2003

The meeting was called to order by the chair at 7:15 p.m. Members present, constituting a quorum, were Betsey Dodge, Chair; Joe Nangle, recording clerk pro-tem; Brenda, Kate, Mary-Carol, Rebecca.

Guests were Ken Lombard and Curt Busto.

Mary-Carol read the minutes of the March meeting in the absence of Joe Taggart, clerk. Acceptance of the minutes as read was moved by Kate and approved by unanimous vote.

Rebecca presented her Treasurer's Report. The bank has received a check for \$1,761 as the first payment for our WHIP program. Acceptance of the report as read was moved by Mary-Carol and approved by unanimous vote.

Ken Lombard of the Open Space Committee summarized for the commission a financing proposal to members of the multi-town Southern New Hampshire proposed parkland acquisition financing. The proposal had been presented at a meeting he attended in Bedford with the consultant firm. He summarized the presentation and told the commission members that he is becoming more comfortable with the proposed fee, and he endorsed going forward a step at a time while enlisting other participating towns.

Rebecca introduced Curt Busto, a fellow worker at her employer's firm. A mapmaker, he discussed a plan to develop a GPS-based map for the conservation area lands in New Boston.

Noftsgar -- Brenda is working with Alex Noftsgar on a potential Conservation Easement on his Laurel lane property and presented the information to the meeting. A site walk of the property is being scheduled.

Clean-up Day --- The Girl Scouts requested permission to groom the Mill Pond Conservation area, and it was granted.

Brandy sent the commission an article by Robert Gilman concerning his desire to do a landscaping program in the triangle at the Middle and South branches of the river. A discussion followed.

## Culvert "Bridge" proposal

### Size

The dimensions of the bridge are Maximum Length <10 feet; unsupported length 4 feet and 9 inches. Width, taken from the footbridge width, 6 feet

### Materials

Best wood for a semiwet environment, since the beams will ordinarily lie covered on level cement in the existing culvert "wings," would be locust. Hasn't been any locust in a mill in 100 years. Next is red cedar. It would cost more than \$100 for each of the 12 beams. Because it would be too soft to wear well as decking, we are forced to choose oak for this function, so it makes sense to use oak throughout.

Next best is native white oak. To minimize wet-caused damp rot in the oak, we would lay a 2x6 red cedar "sill" under the ends on each abutment, keeping the oak above any puddling on the concrete or in the rock-concrete joint at the ends.

To protect the beams and deck from face-to-face rot, we would lay two end-to-end 3-foot roll strips of heaviest roofing paper side by side on the beams.

Wilkins' lumber yard in Milford offered the following prices for white oak beams and deck planking for the culvert bridge on the river trail.

Support beams, native oak stock sawn 6x6x10 feet, lain solid, six feet wide, \$252.

Decking, 2x6x6 feet, lain solid, \$75.60.

Beyond this cost, we would need two widths of three feet, 10 feet long, of first class roofing asphalt paper and two coats of penetrating deck stain Moorgard on all surfaces of the deck and beam elements.