

**Town of Bristol  
Conservation Commission  
Wednesday, January 4, 2012  
Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Chair, Carroll Brown, Jr. , Mason Westfall, Richard LaFlamme, Maureen McGuire, Mary DeWolf, and Janet Cote.

**Plankey Spring:** Mason was thanked for his fall clean-up work at the spring which included raking and general clean-up of area. Carroll indicated that he would be taking a water sample at the spring to test for bacteria levels. Later, in next budget period, another sample will be taken and submitted for standard analysis and will include a test for volatile organic compounds and contaminants. Maureen suggested talking with Freudenberg-NOK regarding donation or sponsorship of Plankey Spring water testing. Carroll was going to check with DES regarding legality of this.

**Conservation Easement Properties:**

Mason reported that the Newfound Lake Association had just announced partnership with Lakes Region Conservation Trust to acquire conservation easement on the Hebron, Newfound Marina property on North Shore Road which would serve protect the river, marsh and lake in that area.

**Catterall Easement Property, Hemp Hill:** Carroll reported that he and Mason finished up monitoring of the Catterall Easement on Hemphill Road. They walked the property and noted a new barn, saw mill and pond area. A report will be submitted to the Forest Society soon.

Discussion followed regarding the review of this Easement for possible amendment with regard to Snowmobile trail that crosses the open fields of this property easement. The owner and Mason indicated it would be advisable to limit the trail to the boundaries of the easement to avoid detrimental impact on flora and fauna protected by the easement. Mason will bring full file to next meeting to further discuss a possible re-route and amendment. It was suggested that we get a copy of the Forest Society deeded easement as well.

**Old Business:**

**Cummings Beach:** Mason shared photographs taken at low water shoreline at the beach. His concern was that this beach was becoming very rocky and the existing broken down jetties could be re-established to allow for natural sand deposits creating better beach experience for residents. It is thought that this could be done easily by town departments and would reduce heavier use at Foot of the Lake - Avery Crouse Beach. Mason will talk with Town Administrator and it was suggested a program plan for Cummings Beach Improvements including jetties could be put together.

**Smith River:** The Smith River project was discussed and it was indicated that color photos and a report should be available showing work done here.

**Zoning Ordinances:** Dick LaFlamme reported that he researched ordinances from 24 other towns. He has printed information from area communities of Franklin, Belmont, Meredith, Tilton and Laconia. All of these communities have similarities with Bristol in regard to setbacks, etc. He is currently making comparisons and breaking the information down to report findings. His main interest is to compare ordinances from communities that have similar assets to protect such as water interests with lakes, rivers, watershed, etc.

**Pending Projects:** Notice received indicating the ZBA approved a Family Dollar Store project at the corner of Robie Road and Route 104.

**Sewer to the Lake:** Commission not sure if this project will appear on this year's warrant again, but Carroll contacted a state official who had been cited as making a statement in public that "Newfound Lake was a bomb waiting to go off". Carroll reported that this official was misquoted and that there is no impending pollution problem with the Lake. There was some discussion and concern raised by Mary DeWolf regarding aquatic weed growth at the Foot of the Lake.

**New Business:**

No wetlands permit applications were received to review.

There was some discussion about a proposed extension to the Heritage Trail by connecting a walking/bike trail from Bristol Square to old train station down by the Pemi River. Issues of public access and bridges was discussed

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Commission is set for February 1<sup>st</sup>. Mason will bring Catterall Easement file and the master plan for the town beach and sample environmental brochures. Dick will get the Franklin brochure.

**Meeting adjourned 8:45 PM**