

APPROVED MINUTES
Henniker Conservation Commission
Water Resources Subcommittee Meeting
November 17, 2008
7:00 PM Henniker Grange Hall

PRESENT: Holly Green, Mark Mitch, Chris Fox, Ron Taylor, & Dana Myskowski

1) Review and approve minutes for the 10/27 meeting:

Holly Green moved to accept the minutes with revisions; Ron Taylor seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

2) Report on meeting with Central NH Regional Planning Commission staff on Innovative Land Use Controls:

The grant that we recently qualified for allows us 30-hours of Central NH Regional Planning Commission staff time to look at innovative land use controls. Holly Green and the staff person met and came out with the recommendation that we adopt wetland buffers since Henniker does not have them. That was his biggest recommendation.

He also questioned whether or not the town has a written policy or ordinance that requires people to obtain a permit in a well-head protection area before building. Ron Taylor reported that the question is raised on the building permit; he will look into whether or not the town has a written policy or ordinance. If we do not have it in writing currently, the staff member recommends that our committee request the town adopt such a written policy.

Our next task as a committee: we need to decide if we agree with the recommendations. If so the staff member will help us draft the text.

We also need to ask ourselves as a committee: what are our goals? Perhaps it is groundwater regulation and/or shoreland protection; whatever land use control we want to recommend, they will help us with it.

One committee member asked if the staff member could help us identify common practices concerning wetland buffers, shore land protection, etc., in other New Hampshire towns, so that we could then see where Henniker falls, which might help us further decide which areas to focus on as a committee.

The text for "Innovative Land Use Planning Techniques" is available on line at the DES website.

3) Updates to Water Resources Management Plan:
WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE TASKS LIST

- Chris brought a labeled well-head protection area map for our town that he printed via the Granite system; he also brought a soil designation map, which Mark studied. Ron, Holly, Mark, and Chris studied the well-head protection maps and identified the areas that are not up to date within the Granite system, such as the campgrounds in town and Dunkin' Donuts.

- Pgs 24 & 26 from the Plan: Ron brought up the fact that since the 1989 report the state handles many areas of Subdivision Regulations. We discussed ways to reflect this in our updated report, suggesting that we can refer readers to the state guidelines where they exist. If any areas are not covered by state regulations that the committee believes should be addressed by the town, we can list our recommendations in our updated report.
- One area that Holly will look into whether there are state road width requirements.
- Solid Waste Disposal – Ron will look into this and bring it up to date.
- Ron brought a copy of the minutes of the Sept. 25, 1989 Henniker Planning Board meeting in which the original Water Resource Management and Protection Plan was adopted.
- Hydrants – Ron commented that all of the town hydrants are now up to date on adequate flow levels. (They were not as of the 1989 report.)

4) *Other Business:*

- Holly handed out copies of:
 - 1) The PowerPoint from the Nov. 13th Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act Presentation led by Arlene Allen from DES, in which 27 people attended at the Henniker Community Center.
 - 2) “Wading Through Water Protection: Applications of the Innovative Land Use Techniques” from an Oct. 25, 2008, presentation.
 - 3) “Bridge Over Troubled Waters – Stream Crossings in NH” from a presentation on November 15, 2008.
 - 4) The New Right to Know Law that was presented Nov. 12, 2008.
- Chris brought an extra copy of the NH Comprehensive Lake Inventory from the NH Department of Environmental Services, and suggested that the committee consider surveying Henniker’s ponds. Mark mentioned that much of the data has already been collected for the town’s ponds, though it may not be as organized as the plan presents; he suggested we consider updating the inventory of Henniker ponds.
- Chris also mentioned the Prime Wetland soil categorization based on GIS Data. He can get a list of wetlands based on criteria in our town from Ted Walsh. Mark requested a copy.

The subcommittee will meet again December 15 at 7 pm. It was unanimously decided to adjourn at 8:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Dana Myskowski
November 18, 2008