CPA Committee Minutes of Meeting Jan. 16, 2006 4:30 PM – 6:00PM

Members Present: Ann Borton, Janet Chayes, John Lochhead, Martha Conant, Walter Goodridge (arrived 5:25), Ron Sweet.

Two members of the Conservation Commission were present: Peter Jeswald and Ruth Bowman. They addressed the question of whether the Con Com could recommend to the CPA land that should be conserved.

Peter saw a possible conflict of interest in that any finding by the Con Com that limits building might lower property value. If such a finding were followed by a recommendation that the town conserve the land a conflict of interest might be construed.

Ruth indicated that the primary mission of the Conservation Commission is conservation. She wishes the commission could devote more of its energy to land conservation. Both Ruth and Peter agreed that for the immediate future the Con Com is fully engaged in regulation enforcement and does not have the resources to determine which land is most in need of conservation.

Questions were raised concerning a possible role of the Master Planning Committee in proposing land for conservation. While it seems they are not currently working toward such a capability they might in the future be requested to do so.

Members of the Con Com left at 5:25PM. Discussion continued on the issue of how to set priorities for land conservation. Possible sources for such recommendations that were considered included: the Trails Committee, The Sportsman Club, The Snowmobile Club and the Natural Heritage group.

The next scheduled meeting will be on February 6.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM