

CONCORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
Regular Meeting
August 12, 2015
Second Floor Conference Room, City Hall
41 Green Street, Concord, NH

Attendance

Christopher Morgan, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members present at the meeting included: Chair Christopher Morgan; Frederick Chormann; Pam Hunt; Chris Kane; Councilor Jan McClure; and Jim Owers. Senior Planner Beth Fenstermacher and Patricia Murray, Administrative Specialist from the Planning Division also attended the meeting.

1. Minutes, July 8, 2015 meeting.

Mr. Chormann moved to accept the July 8, 2015 minutes with the changes discussed. Ms. Hunt seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

2. Earle Blatchford on behalf of Dartmouth Hitchcock. Conditional Use Permit for the proposed disturbance of wetland buffer for parking lot upgrade at 279 Pleasant Street.

Mr. Earle Blatchford, Hayner/Swanson, Inc., was present to speak to the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) application. Dartmouth Hitchcock is proposing some building and site renovations at their medical office building at 279 Pleasant Street. Mr. Blatchford presented an existing conditions plan and proposed site plan. He noted a wetlands consultant reviewed the site. There is an intermittent stream on the westerly boundary of the property. Drainage from Pleasant Street and on-site catch basin flow to the back of the site, and discharges to the intermittent stream. The applicant is proposing to replace existing pavement, sloped granite curbing, and remove bollards to be replaced with proper guardrail in the area subject to the proposed CUP. There will be no tree removal or encroachment onto the slope to complete the site work. Overall, the number of parking spaces will be reduced from 122 to 111 with an increase of handicap spaces to 10, and runoff will decrease. The raised island will be landscaped.

Mr. Kane moved to recommend the Conditional Use Permit application for the proposed disturbance of wetland buffer for parking lot upgrade at 279 Pleasant Street to the Planning Board. Mr. Chormann seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. NHDES items - none

4. Reports

a. Trails Committee –

Minutes from the July 22, 2015 Trails meeting were distributed.

Ms. Fenstermacher stated clearing has begun on the Swope connector trails south of District #5 Road; 12 volunteers cleared about ¾ miles. Ms. Fenstermacher stated a joint meeting with Conservation Commission and Trails Committee will be scheduled once Mr. Klemarczyk returns.

Ms. Fenstermacher reported that Mr. Klemarczyk met with the Raymond's regarding the boardwalk across the wetland area. General Services donated approximately \$200 worth of plank materials and the area of the boardwalk was also reduced due to relocation of the trail entrance so the cost of the project

was reduced from \$2400 to \$1060. Discussion ensued regarding viewing boardwalk/bridge design plans and the maple sugar operation at the site.

Mr. Owers moved to approve an expenditure of \$1060.00 from the Conservation Commission FY 2016 budget for the purpose of constructing a boardwalk/suspension bridge. Mr. Chormann seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Fenstermacher notified the Commission that the family of Brendan Cahill, who recently passed away, contacted the Planning Division and requested that memorial donations be gifted to an Oak Hill Trail maintenance fund. The Finance Department created an account and to date we have received \$1025.00. Chair Morgan stated he would write a letter of appreciation to the family.

Ms. Fenstermacher stated a topic at Trails Committee was the introduction of Trails Days at which an organized group would clean up a specified trail. Matt Bowzer from NEMBA would advertise and potentially assist with the organization. This is on hold until Mr. Klemarczyk's return. Discussion regarding bike trails ensued. Councilor McClure suggested an assessment and map of the trails. Ms. Fenstermacher stated this is being worked on.

b. Upper Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee – Mr. Chormann stated E.coli had been discovered in water at the Sewalls Falls bridge area and it is being looked at more closely.

c. Contoocook and North Branch Rivers Local Advisory Committee – no update

d. Forestry – Mr. Klemarczyk's report was distributed.

e. Street Trees – Councilor McClure stated the next meeting is September 14 at 12pm in the second floor conference room. She stated they have received a lot of information and she will forward to the Commission before the next meeting.

5. City Council/Planning Board

No update

6. Easement Stewardship/Monitoring

Ms. Fenstermacher reported that Sam Durfee is continuing the monitoring. Mr. Durfee will attend the September or October Conservation Commission meeting to update the group.

7. City Open Space

a. Class B bio solid fertilizer permit renewals for Green Gold Farm and Morrill Farm Dairy

Ms. Fenstermacher stated the permits are for the home in Penacook and Green Gold Farm. The Commission considered the permit request.

Mr. Owers moved support the permit renewals and to request a report from Resource Management regarding the Class B bio solid fertilizer permit at Green Gold Farm and Morrill Farm Dairy. Ms. Hunt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Other Business

- a. **Haller parcels** – ARM Grant Application due 8/31/15. Councilor McClure stated the landowner acknowledgement letter is still needed; Councilor McClure will call and ask for. Ms. Fenstermacher stated City Council approved the resolution to apply for the grant. Mr. Kane spoke to Dan Geiger regarding the wetlands and Mr. Geiger will be able to do the field work on Monday or Tuesday next week. Ms. Fenstermacher stated the grant application is due August 31 so she will need draft information the week of the 24th. She will have the draft ready the week of the 24th and sent to the Commission for review.
- b. **Pierce property update** – Ms. Fenstermacher stated the frontage is figured out. NCRS is requesting additional requirements in order to give matching funds. Rob Knight and Five Rivers are working with NCRS to meet the requirements.
- c. **Scenic River Designation** – Mr. Chormann stated Franklin is moving forward and is prepared to go alone. Some discussion regarding a recommendation to City Council for November and having Franklin attend the next meeting for an update ensued.
- d. **Financial update** – Ms. Fenstermacher handed out a monthly update.
- e. **Any other items** – Ms. Fenstermacher asked that the Commission give thought to the approach for the Open Space plan; she will follow up next month for a game plan to move forward. She also spoke about the possibility of hiring a consultant. Mr. Kane stated the permit for the invasives control was approved for Gully Hill. Ms. Fenstermacher stated the vendor that supplies the wetlands buffer and conservation land disks has increased the price and she asked the Commission to raise the price we charge from \$1.00 each to \$1.25 each. The Commission agreed. Ms. Fenstermacher notified the Commission that the resident on Snow Pond Road who encroached the buffer will be in attendance at next month's meeting to present a possible mitigation.

13. Non-public session for the discussion of conservation property in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II(d)

Mr. Chormann moved to enter into a second nonpublic session for the discussion of conservation property in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II(d). Mr. Owers seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. The Commission entered into non-public session.

Following the discussion, the Commission moved to exit nonpublic session and seal the minutes. The motion was duly seconded and passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:57pm.

A TRUE RECORD ATTEST:

Patricia Murray, *Secretary Pro-tem*