

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

30 PAYSON HILL ROAD

RINDGE, NH 03461

Tel. (603) 899-5181 Fax (603) 899-2101 TDD 1-800-735-2964

Minutes for May 13, 2019

Conservation Commission members present: David Drouin, William Preston, Al Lefebvre, Joseph Desruisseaux, Phil Simeone, Paul McPhie
Alternates in attendance: Deni Dickler, Fred Dodge

Meeting convened at 7:00 pm

OLD BUSINESS:

- Trail mapping subcommittee update – Dickler/Lefebvre distributed to the Commission and audience the trail maps that had been printed at Savron Graphics. Drouin will distribute the maps to Selectmen at May 15 meeting. Lefebvre recommended map holders for kiosks that cost \$28.99 each. Simeone motioned and Dodge seconded to spend up to \$120 for map four holders from Conservation Fund.
- Natural Resource Inventory Presentation, May 23, 7:00 pm at Recreation/Community Center– Lefebvre reported that the Rec Center has been reserved and will contact Littleton if he needs anything for the presentation.
- Colonial Green project & role of Conservation Commission – About ten residents were present to express their concern with the Commission’s earlier acceptance of the Colonial Green proposal for a proposed building at its Route 202 site. Some of the group’s concerns were:
 - o The building is not meeting wetlands setbacks as required by the Town’s regulations for hazardous materials/chemicals; a building that holds hazardous materials must be 125 feet from wetlands.
 - o The Planning Board erred in permitting the hazardous material to be in the building but on the side that met the 125 ft. requirement.
 - o Colonial Green was not forthright in explaining the full nature of the hazardous chemicals that were to be stored. According to a a Dow Chemical Company document, one drop of water can cause the chemical to explode which could affect the wetlands that feed to Lake Monomonac and Lord Brook. The chemicals to be stored are on the EPA MSDS list of hazardous materials.
 - o The dumpster location for the property is also close to wetlands and residents have concerns that contents of bagged material deposited into it could leach into the wetlands. They also expressed concern for how the dumpster would be cleaned and that any such runoff would end up in the wetlands.
 - o The dirt waste pile location on the property: what is its purpose and the content of the dirt waste and where does it come from?
 - o The Monadnock Tenants Coop and Monomonac residents have filed a suit for an appeal of the Planning Board’s approval with the NH Superior Court. On May 1 the Planning Board was notified of the suit.

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Monadnock State Park
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- o Residents inquired as to whether or not the town of Windham, MA might have any concerns about possible harm to Lake Monomonac since the lake flows into that town. Commission members suggested they contact the Windchendon Conservation Commission.
- o Drouin explained that the Commission has responsibility for wetland setback adherence based on plans presented. He distributed a draft letter that he proposed to send to the Code Enforcement Officer, the Planning Board and Board of Selectmen. The letter expressed the Commission’s concerns with setbacks previously presented, the misrepresentation of the full nature of the hazardous chemicals, the Planning Board’s decision to waive setback requirements on the condition that hazardous chemicals were to be stored in the proposed building but 125 feet from wetlands. The letter indicates that the decision to allow the building with hazardous chemicals within 125 feet of wetlands was a decision for the Board of Adjustment and not the Planning Board. The project should apply for a special exception from the Board of Adjustment. Drouin
- o Preston motioned and Desruisseaux seconded to approve the draft letter with the minor changes referring to storage stockpiles and the dumpster. The letter will be sent to the Code Enforcement Officer, the Planning Board and the Board of Selectmen. A copy of the letter will be sent to the Monadnock Tenants Coop.
- Annett State Forest update – meeting with Tara Blaney (South Region Park Director), Scott Rolfe (Forest Ranger) and Will Kirkpatrick (Monadnock State Park) on May 21, 1:30 pm. Preston, McPhie and Desruisseaux indicated that they would meet at Annett State Forest at the time listed.

NEW BUSINESS

- Conservation land tour schedule for summer – Dickler reviewed the summer tours and added names of the tour guides. She had prepared an announcement for the Chamber of Commerce newsletter and Lefebvre will use it for the announcement that will be sent to the Monadnock Transcript-Ledger. The Commission noted that new signs are needed for the Miriam Hunt and Tetreault Park conservation lands and Drouin mentioned that he had signs which will be placed at the locations shortly. McPhie mentioned that the loop trail at the Contoocook Marsh needs to be marked.
 - o June 23, Contoocook Marsh Conservation Complex. Mellor & Dodge
 - o July 14, Tetreault Park. Richards
 - o August 18, Converse Meadow Paddle Tour and Hike. McPhie & Preston
 - o September 22, Miriam Hunt Memorial Town Forest. Fred Rodgers
- Earl Robertson application for addition proposal. Mr. Robertson was not present for the discussion. The Commission reviewed the plans but they were unclear and will need a site review by the Commission. The Commission will offer May 21 and May 22 (both at 6:00 pm) for site reviews. Drouin will inform Michelle at the Town Office to contact Robertson about the date he prefers.
- Conservation Commission Rules of Procedure & NHACC Handbooks – Lefebvre distributed copies of the Rules of Procedure which Commissioners reviewed. NHACC Handbooks will be distributed upon arrival.

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- Schoolhouse Park survey estimate and April 27 workday results before reported that Jed Paquin provided a survey cost estimate of \$4200 for Schoolhouse Park. The Commission decided to hold-off on the survey for now. The April 27 workday was as success and much was accomplished with 15 people assisting. The parking area will need additional gravel. June 1 (9:00 am) was established as another workday.
- Land Use Change Report 2018-19 – reviewed by Drouin

Simeone motioned and Desruisseaux seconded to go into Non-public session. Commissioners were polled and all approved.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION per RSA 91-A:3 – REAL ESTATE

Simeone motioned and Desruisseaux seconded to leave the Non-public session. Commission members were polled and all approved.

Desruisseaux motioned and Simeone seconded to seal the Minutes of this Non-Public meeting. Commissioners were polled and all approved.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: April 25, 2019 Preston mentioned he should be listed as an Alternate. Preston motioned and Simeone seconded to approve the Public and Non-Public Minutes with changes. The motion was approved with Dodge abstaining.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION EMAILS - None

CORRESPONDENCE – Letter from Code Enforcement Officer concerning Halliday excavations at Map 2, Lots 41-2 & 57-1 on Middle Winchendon Rd. – Drouin reviewed and mentioned that it needs to be reviewed by the Board of Adjustment

OFFICIAL NOTICES – NH DES File No 2018-03523, Map 2 Lot 57, 468 Middle Winchendon Rd, Tim Halliday, Notice of issues. Drouin reviewed and mentioned that it needs to be reviewed by the Board of Adjustment

FINANCIAL REPORTS: As of April 30, 2019, with postage report. – reviewed by Drouin

NEXT MEETING: May 23, 2019 (same date as Natural Resource presentation at Rec Ctr)

2019 Schedule of Meetings: June 10 & 27, July 8 & 25, Aug 12 & 22, Sept 9 & 26, Oct 14 (Columbus Day) & 24, Nov 11 (Veterans’ Day), Dec 9.