

Barrington Conservation Commission
September 19, 2013 7:00 PM
Barrington Elementary School Annex, Professional Development Center

MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT: John Wallace, Chair
Pam Failing, Vice-Chair
Anne Melvin
Ken Grossman

ABSENT: Peter Sandin, Alternate
Glenn Gould

CALL TO ORDER

Barrington Conservation Commission (BCC) Chair John Wallace called the meeting of September 19, 2013 to order at 7:15.

DELEGATION OF VOTING MEMBERS John Wallace confirmed the presence of members as above.

- 1) Guests: Marika Wilde and David Souliere attended to observe the meeting.
Greg Jones, SRPC
- 2) Conservation Plan for Town: Greg Jones, SRPC Greg had been contacted by Anne Melvin regarding having SRPC input into developing a conservation plan for the town. It was mentioned that town dues from Barrington would cover the cost of SRPC participation in the process. The CC discussed plans that exist for other towns and how these plans might be guides for, or incorporated into, a plan for Barrington. The plan for Henniker NH had been previously reviewed and it was decided that this plan would serve as a template from which to work. Greg mentioned that a conservation plan inserted as a chapter into a master plan would be more involved, but give more depth to the master plan. John mentioned that it would be helpful to have something already in place to help guide the master plan being updated, and Pam suggested something simple to start with that could be built on. Greg recommended that the BCC prioritize what it wants, and SRPC can give assistance from that point. Ken mentioned that the conservation plan would note those things which are being done already and things which the BCC would like to accomplish in the future. There was discussion about how maps could be used and presented as part of the conservation plan. The group decided to take the categories in the Henniker plan and develop ideas that would be pertinent to Barrington. Ken will be

covering public awareness, John will do natural communities and multiple use of land and water resources, Anne will work on land resources, Pam will cover water resources and Marika will be doing the protection of quality of water resources. The BCC together will work on a vision statement and goals.

3) Approval of minutes of Sept. 5

Anne Melvin made a motion to accept the minutes of September 5, as amended.

Pam Failing seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of four (4) to zero (0) in favor.

4) Complaints: none

5) Old Business:

a) George Calef: ~300 acres along Isinglass – The LCHIP application has been filed. Mr. Calef has signed the agreement with TPL. John is seeking a grant of \$30,000 from the Moose Grant Fund.

b) Potential new easement from M. Wilde Marika will wait to hear from Strafford Rivers Conservancy before doing an application to the Conservation Fund. Pam pointed out that on Marika's proposed easement, access for public walks would be crossing private property.

c) Potential conservation subdivision, Ramsdell Dr. - site walk report

John and Pam did a site walk and noted that there are no vernal pools on the property. The group reviewed the proposed development and discussed the benefits of doing a conservation subdivision.

d) Village Place/Gas station - proposed well, final easement language

The CC discussed the developers' proposal to have 8 acres available for well exploration with 4 acres secured for surrounding the well. Pam expressed concern with encroachment on the conservation land and the state it could be left in after the well exploration. Anne suggested that the land in question be reclaimed by the developer. Pam pointed out that the proposed well is for a third party and not the property owners in the development. Pam suggested that the CC approval be suspended until more details about the well location and potential agreement are brought forward and agreed to.

Ken Grossman made a motion for the BCC to reconsider its earlier vote on the proposed well in the conservation easement. Pam Failing seconded the motion, which passed with a vote of two (2) to one (1) in favor. Grossman – aye, Failing – aye, Wallace – nay, Anne Melvin recused herself.

John Wallace will let the Planning Board know that the Conservation Commission is reconsidering its vote, and he will suggest that the Planning Board postpone its vote to allow for further discussion.

Ken Grossman left the meeting at 9:15.

- e) Treasurer's report - status of Stewardship fund (Pam) This will be covered at a future meeting.
- f) BCC by laws (rules of procedure) - (Ken) To be covered at a future meeting.
- g) Steering committee for Master Plan: Anne will serve
- 6) New Business:
 - a) Planning Board
 - i) Yellow Dog Barn was approved at the last PB meeting.
 - ii) Gerrior revision: 268-1& Additional Lots -GR-13-SUB (Gerrior Lane Trust) No new developments. Pam shared that she received an email from Alison Desmarais regarding future development in the area. This is taking place in Nottingham and Pam questioned whether Barrington should be notified of this development. Pam will let Alison know that Barrington's town planner should have knowledge of this development. Pam questioned if the Gerrior developers ever paid the stewardship fund, and John stated he will suggest \$2,000 be put toward the fund.
 - b) Intents to cut None
 - c) Possible to change meeting dates to 2d and 4th Thursdays? This wouldn't work because of conflicts.
 - d) There was discussion with David Souliere about a town beach and the possibility of low impact camping on easement properties. Pam suggested that Mr. Souliere research what might be involved in acquiring and maintaining a town beach and present this to the selectmen. John will look at the Tamposi easement to see if camping is allowed.
- 7) Announcements/correspondence:
 - a) DES
 - b) \$10,000 from Bafflin Foundation for Leahy This will go to replenish the Conservation Fund.
 - c) Isinglass Protection Committee: Democracy School, Sept 20-21
 - d) Town and City
- 8) Easements:
 - a) Easement monitoring: John Wallace will do the Falls on the Isinglass this weekend.
- 9) Committee reports:
- 10) Next scheduled meeting: Oct 3, 2013

Anne Melvin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:45. Pam Failing seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of three (3) to zero (0) in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Lenzi