

Enfield Conservation Commission Meeting

May 7, 2015

Public Works Facility, Enfield

Present: Gary Gaudette, Shirley Green, Sue Hagerman, Jeanine King, Dwight Marchetti, Alan Strickland, Jerold Theis

Guest: Steve Schneider

Chairman Strickland called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Lakeview Condominium: Strickland recapped concerns of property owner Jim Petryk that the Lakeview septic system located on his property is failing. Schneider provided additional background: Lakeview has a couple of primary sites for septic, one of which is on Petryk's property. Each site has multiple fields. Lakeview management has responded to malfunction concerns by switching fields. The Petryk site is landlocked, approximately 140 acres, located in a conservation zone, and abuts State Fish and Game property. The area of septic involvement is a small percentage of the property but is located on a portion the public is accessing. The State DES compliance officer has been on site several times and has tested discharge from the system, as has the Town. Results were below State limits for tested pathogens. Dr. Theis would like to review the State report for specifics regarding types and numbers of pathogens and will obtain this from the Town. Phil Neily, Enfield Health Officer, has visited the site and although he has not detected an odor, at times he has noted there is a stream running through the property. The Town has no jurisdiction as this is a private system on private land. Although it is under the State's Department of Environmental Services' jurisdiction, the Town is an interested party due to the system's proximity to Mascoma Lake. The Town of Lebanon is also involved as lake effluent goes to the city plant and could affect their water supply. The State is going to issue a letter of deficiency which sets out parameters and time frames to fix or repair the problem source to remedy any deficiencies. The Selectboard is understanding but there is nothing in the regulations which would allow the Town to intervene. However, Lakeview has approached the Town informally and then a bit more formally about the possibility of extending the existing sewer line to them, about a mile and a half down Route 4A. The Town is eligible for a 40% grant from the USDA for the estimated cost of over 3 million dollars to extend the sewer line 1.5 miles on a state road. Also talked about building a treatment plant and doing some proactive thinking. This is a significant issue for Lakeview property owners and potentially the Petryk land. Lakeview is currently spending tens of thousands of dollars to pump the system, which is likely at its end of useful life. In summary, the Town is very involved and the State is insistent on resolution.

Harris Brook Scenic Area:

- **Parking project:** Strickland received 3 bids for construction of the parking area. All bids were for culvert installation and parking area creation with bank run gravel only, sized to accommodate 6-8 vehicles. The bids are as follows: Rob Godfrey \$3,850; Steve Patten \$4,830.25; and Bill Warner from Canaan \$5,100. After much discussion, Shirley Green motioned to go with Godfrey's bid after Strickland receives satisfactory answers to posed questions regarding removal of topsoil, installation of proper base and drainage. Gary Gaudette seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved contingent upon resolution of queries as above. Other questions, including whether or not the Town could provide the culvert, were

raised. Strickland is looking for a liaison with Rob Godfrey and it was suggested that Jim Taylor of the DPW could appropriately fill this role as he has expertise in this area.

- **Signage:** Strickland revised the signage after visiting with the Selectboard. He pared the verbiage down and changed “Harris Brook Recreational Area” to “Harris Brook Scenic Area.” Following is the proposed signage:

Welcome to the Harris Brook Scenic Area

This reservoir was created in 1903 and supplied water for Enfield until 1983

Area closed at dark

Rules and regulations:

Carry in/Carry out: Leave no trace

Dogs must be on leash

Swim at own risk/No lifeguard on duty

No fires

No alcohol or smoking

No trespassing on private property

Please don't feed the wildlife

Please clean up after your dog

Please stay within designated town trails and property while enjoying
and exploring this scenic area

Schneider indicated his approval and asked Strickland to bring it before the board for finalization. Marchetti suggested posting 'no parking' signs along the road to respect adjacent residents' private property. Will the Town supply signs?

Review of April minutes: Jeanine King moved to approve. Alan Strickland seconded. Dwight Marchetti abstained. Approved.

Wildlife: Woodcock and garter snake seen in second growth clear cuts on Fish & Game property near Goodhue Hill Road (early April). Marchetti states 65 wild turkeys have been harvested since youth weekend (2 weekends ago). Large amount of deer. A large amount of porcupines have been seen in the last 2 weeks, highly unusual. He has heard a lot of owls and had many rabbit sightings. Had a good

smelt good run in Mascoma River, indicating the population is coming back. Also sightings of eagles and loons.

Welcome: New member Jerold Theis, DVM, PhD, Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, School of Medicine, University of California Davis. He would like to make available designs for bat houses and owl boxes, perhaps in the Valley News. They are simple to build and perhaps could be sold at the Farmers Market. Need to provide education as to how and where to install, etc.

Litter: Strickland picked up numerous whipped cream canisters in the Bicknell Brook parking area on Grafton Pond Road. Litter is pervasive everywhere. There will be a Crystal Lake clean up day on 5/23 although no town-wide cleanup due to EVA leadership in flux.

Vernal Pools: On 4/18/15 Strickland attended a workshop on vernal pools in Peterborough, NH sponsored by the Harris Center for Conservation Education. On 5/1/15 he attended a vernal pool workshop for landowners, foresters, and Conservation Commissions at the Harris Center in Hancock, NH. Strickland has composed a list of known vernal pools in Enfield to post on the Conservation website. There are 18 vernal pools locations with egg masses. King moved he put this list on the website. Marchetti seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Correspondence: DES Shoreland Impact Permit granted to Linda MacVicar, Map#43, Lot#7, Crystal Lake, for impact 5948 square feet in order to raze existing home and build a new structure on the existing footprint with garage, addition to primary structure, breezeway, deck, parking and a previous walkway and patio. Green asks if the Commission was notified when the application was received. Strickland replied no, just when it was granted.

Old Home Day event: Should the Commission plan to use the Harris Brook area? If so, visitors could meet at the Community Building to carpool. Strickland will talk with Godfrey to see if it will be ready by then. Need to verify as soon as possible to allow time to plan and promote event.

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 4 at 7 p.m.

A motion was made by Marchetti to adjourn. This was seconded by King and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 0812 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Gillen

June 8, 2015

Revised 6/5/15