



Falmouth Conservation Commission
Minutes of October 7, 2013

Meeting convened at 7:00 pm

Members Present: Sarah Boudreau, Mel Dickenson , Steve DeCrosta, Susan Gilpin, Jerry Goodall, Nancy Lightbody.

Additional Attendees: Teresa Pierce (Town Council) and Nathan Poore (Town Planner)

- **Route 1 Improvements**

Nathan and Teresa described the landscaping plan for the Route 1 Improvement Project. The landscaping plan, as prepared by T.J. DeWann & Associates was explained, including detailed information on tree plantings and stormwater management. FST general consulting / engineers prepared the stormwater plan.

Landscaping:

- Trees species to be planted along Route 1 included: 1-2 elm species, 2 cherries, red maple, ginkgo, tulip tree
- Elms planted 40' apart.
- The FCC asked about tulip tree messes during flowering, and suggested only male ginkgo trees, as female ginkgo trees have an odor.

Stormwater:

- Infiltration galleys for stormwater filtration, collecting water passes through layered filtration media (proprietary bio-filtration media), and then into existing collection system. Filtration media would need replacement at unknown intervals.
- The FCC discussed whether state stormwater regulations were sufficient? Or should the town enact ordinances to deal with .5 acre scale developments and stormwater. No decision was reached, but the Town may want to consider more stringent stormwater regulations in the future.

Lighting:

- The new lighting plan would be pedestrian friendly. Approximately 150 new light structures are planned. The town evaluated the potential energy impact and night-skies impacts (light pollution) (Larry Bartlett, expert), the proposed lights were assigned a BUG rating, lower better (0-5), possible lighting is likely BUG=1, and LED which will reduce energy consumption significantly over standard halogen or incandescent bulbs.
- Maintenance was a question, town has preliminary budget to deal with landscaping maintenance.



Following the Route 1 Improvement Project discussion Nathan and Teresa departed.

Review of Minutes

The minutes from the September 9, 2013 meeting were approved as written.

Subcommittee Discussions and Reports

- **LMAC** – Land Management and Acquisitions Committee
Mel gave update on LMAC. The Committee will continue to interface with the FCC.
- **Stormwater-**
 - All day stormwater conference this fall at Sable Oaks, town will have representatives in attendance.
 - Conservation Law Foundation has petitioned EPA to redefine their stormwater regulations, making regulators focus on watershed opposed to problem area.
- **Planning Board-** No new planning board actions in September. Mel is in contact with the Board.
- **Invasive Species-**
 - Sarah gave update on 9/11 action item, invasives subcommittee attended farmers market, it was really hot so there weren't too many folks in attendance. Event at Allen Sterling was similar to Farmers Market. They had expected to do a course at Allen Sterling, but it was more of a farmers market. Some good conversations were had with the public. The live specimens of invasive species are effective at attracting attention.
 - FCC should have name tags for farmers markets, poles etc.
 - The best invasives poster should be digitized and put on the website. Nancy to send PPT version of the poster to FCC.
- **Ad Hoc Zoning**
 - The Ad-Hoc Zoning committee has focused on how best to post the combined ordinance on the web. A meeting was held regarding costs, and advantages of different online publication programs, Aaron was unable attend this meeting but minutes may be available.
 - The next meeting is scheduled for some time in November.
 - To-date the committee has not completed any reorganization or rewording of the ordinance. Aaron will continue to attend the committee meetings.



- **Clapboard Island Purchase and Easement Update:**
 - Susan gave update from on Clapboard Island trip, 15 people total attended on 3 boats: 2 from the town council (Russel and Karen), 3 from FCC (Aaron, Steve, Susan), and one representative (at least) from the FLT (Annelies).
 - Aaron is preparing a Critical Issues Analysis for Clapboard Island.
 - For access to Clapboard Island, call David Robinson 831 5199 Cell.
 - There was some discussion regarding the appropriateness of the Clapboard Island acquisition. It was agreed that the FCC can make a recommendation to the council on any conservation issue, the key recommendation for the acquisition would be from the LMAC. Bob Shafto is point-of-contact at LMAC.
 - Aaron stated that the Critical Issues Analysis would be available by November (Thanksgiving).

Action Items

- Plan for FCC replacement of Mel. Mel's term is up in December. There are 2 individuals interested in FCC (Scott Sanborn, and Rick Scalla). Term lengths are listed on the website:
http://www.town.falmouth.me.us/Pages/FalmouthME_BComm/conservation
- Four FCC members supported Nancy as the next chair of the Committee, but no decision was made.
- Steve to do minutes in December.

Plans for 2013-2014

- Water quality in Mussel Cove could be monitored before/after the Route 1 project. Baseline conditions data for the Mussel Cove may exist: Casco Bay estuary project was reached out to by Mel, friends of Casco Bay also reached out to, DEP may have information – EGAD data on baseline conditions for Mussel Cove.
- Someone could do a project on the pre-construction and post-construction water quality following the Route 1 improvement. This could be an eagle scout project, Nancy is meeting with scouts on Thursday, for other reasons and could discuss this. Possible USM undergraduate project for an ecology / water resource major.
- Name tags for the FCC ahead of Nov. 5 election booth.
- FCC invasives poster PPT or PDF for posting on website.