

Committee: _____ Conservation Commission _____

Date: _____ November 12, 2015 _____

Time: _____ 7:00pm _____

Location: _____ 2nd Floor Town Hall _____

Members & Staff present: __Nick Feitz, Rae Ann Baldwin, Laura Repplier, Carl Shreder, Lillabeth Weis, Susan Flint & Steve Przyjemski, Rachel Bancroft

Members not present: _____ Andrew Currie _____

The meeting was called to order at: _____ 7:00pm _____

Meeting Motions / Actions and Summary of Discussions:

Hearings:

Georgetown Conservation Commission
11/12/15

Chairpersons and Staff present: Laura Repplier, acting chairperson; Rae Ann Baldwin, Lillabeth Weis, Nick Feitz, Rachel Bancroft, Steve Przyjemski, agent; Susan Flint-Vincent, administrative assistant

Meeting Called to order @ 7:00pm.

Rock Pond Association: Tom McGrane, 8 Rock Pond Avenue;
27 household memberships

Purpose: Introduction to Rock Pond Association, Milfoil, 20 acres of 57 acres pond infested with Milfoil. Recommended that treatment be done in the spring to stem the growth.

Raising money for a treatment in the spring. Working with ACT Aquatic for the permitting process. The native plants and the wildlife will be effected by the Milfoil canopy that grows across the top of the water. It's so invasive and moves so fast, blocks sunlight, takes up O2.

We have pictures of places that have really turn into swamps. We were told that if we let it go another season, it will get REALLY bad. We need to manage it and keep it under control. It's rooted and fragments really easily.

Rae Ann Baldwin: Powwow Pond in Kingston has Milfoil and property values have really plummeted.

Tom McGrane: The recommended way was an aquacide. The issue was funds, they use diquat, that's what ACT suggested. The state recommended 2,4-D, or SONAR.

Lillabeth Weis: How many times would you have to skim the top to do the equivalent to knock it back? How many times would you have to treat with SONAR? 2-3x, and then 2-3X/year to keep it in check.

Tom McGrane: Dash boats, diver goes down and vacuums - \$350,000.

Steve Przyjemski: My understanding is that the Rock Pond Association is here to be introduced, we're not going to figure this out tonight.

Lillabeth Weis: I think an important thing to think about is that these ponds feed into the rivers and other water systems. The main thing is that milfoil is not toxic itself, it suffocates the fish. Herbicide means death, so we want ask questions.

Steve Przyjemski: The concept is good, but we can look at all the options. It's way too early to decide what to do.

Tom McGrane: ACT does chemical treatments, dash boats, harvesting. Now we know what moneys are available. We know now CPC can fund the project, but it wouldn't be available until July. You didn't see the milfoil in May, and then all of a sudden it was present en masse. If it's in the outlet, it's definitely going to Pentucket Pond. We don't want to be the leads, but we wanted to do something to stem it. It's amazing how bad it is.

Nick Feitz: I think the interest goes beyond the homeowners. I'm a fisherman.

John Bell, 115 Lake Shore Drive: It auto fragments. One little handful broken up is a million babies.

Laura Replier: Which state agency are you working with? What's the name of the herbicide?

Tom McGrane: DCR, DiQuat

Steve Przyjemski: We're general support. ACT will have to file for a NOI.

Tom McGrane: We have the money to do the permitting project.

Laura Replier: Are they proposing a solution?

Steve Przyjemski: Herbicides are what they are proposing.

Tom McGrane: It's beautiful and we want to protect and preserve it. (Rock Pond) I don't know the exact number of ponds in the state that are affected, but ACT has treated 300 ponds in the state.

Laura Replier: ACT they are very responsive and thorough.

Tom McGrane: When we first contacted them, we weren't even an association, just 4 of us.

The president of the company came down and met us and did the sonar evaluation.

We just wanted to come down and introduce ourselves.

Steve Przyjemski: Get prices and all the available options for the filing.

Laura Replier: I wonder if they have any case studies on ponds like ours. So we can get a good idea on what works well.

Steve Przyjemski: I can work with you to help get CPC funding.

Tom McGrane: We can do some policing at the boat ramp. It's a big turnaround as to who owns it. There's 3 entities involved there. Most of that won't be starting until mid-winter or spring. There are classes in the spring for "weed watchers", we're trying to educate ourselves as well as everyone else.

Paul Nelson: CPC representative. You have 60K in Pentucket Pond. It's specified for Pentucket Pond, it can be put it back into the general fund, and have it redistributed to both Ponds.

Steve Przyjemski: Paul and I have talked and we agree to the plan.

Tom McGrane: Rock and Pentucket are the "Crowns of the Town".

Paul Nelson: You have until November 29th for you to put your application in for CPC.

Steve Przyjemski: It gets put into the general fund, and hopefully will be voted to be manage both ponds, so you can treat what you need to.

Paul Nelson: You might be able to get deferment from ACT until July.

Tom McGrane: I did submit a suggestion.

Paul Nelson: If the suggestion is accepted, you would put together a formal proposal, in the spring.

Tom McGrane: Our mission statement is really for Rock Pond.

Paul Nelson: It might be better if the Con Com submits it, then they can be responsible for both ponds.

160 Jewett St (GCC 2015-14; DEP#161-0812) NOI - NEW

Jim Scanlon, Septic system in failure. 3 Bedroom home, intermittent stream wetlands, we did soil testing with Deb Rogers, very tough soils, they wouldn't perc, silt loam, there's a very sharp line between the silt loam and the sand. We really only had one place that we could put the septic system. (Sandy loam, silt loam and well over 60"water table).

Proposing septic system, pump chamber, 1" pipes with orifices every 5', squirting effluent, using the whole field. 50' from the wetlands. To get any further away, we would be getting into poor soil. Getting into the flood plain, 50'.

Board of Health approval, DEP is under review.

Lillabeth Weis: The system that is in failure, can you dig it out and put it back in place?

Jim Scanlon: They've had a system there, we don't know how long it's been working. It isn't a good thing, but it keeps it from backing up into the house.
High ground water in T2, standing water at 5', T3 just wouldn't perc.

Nick Feitz: What about an elevated leach field?

Jim Scanlon: The footprint and the groundwater level. It would have to be naturally occurring material.

Steve Przyjemski: It's closer than it is there now, but it's a better design.

Jim Scanlon: BOH, permit has to be pulled by the 1st of Dec, and the work has to be completed by 15th of Dec.

Steve Przyjemski: If it's an emergency, I can work with you.

Nick Feitz: Makes a motion to continue to Dec 10th at 7pm.

Rachel Bancroft seconds.

Motion carries unanimously.

Jim Scanlon: If DEP approves it, do I need to be here?

Steve Przyjemski: No, we'll talk next week after we hear from DEP.

175 Central Street (GCC# 2014-25; DEP#161-0797) - NOI (cont.)

Laura Repplier: Have we heard anything?

Steve Przyjemski: Nothing new.

Nick Feitz: I recommend we continue until Dec 10th at 7:05pm

Rae Ann Baldwin: Seconds the motion

Motion passes unanimously.

Rachel Bancroft: Makes a motion to pay the bills as read by Steve.

Nick Feitz: Seconds the motion

Motion passes unanimously.

Nick Feitz: I make a motion to increase the Camp Denison Committee from 5 to 7 members.

Lillabeth Weis: seconded the motion.

Motion passes unanimously.

Steve Przyjemski: I have two more people who would like to be on the Camp Denison Committee and one consultant.

Rae Ann Baldwin: I make a motion to appoint the people as read by Steve.

Rachel Bancroft: Seconds the motion.

Motion carries unanimously.

Rae Ann Baldwin: Makes a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the October 15, 2015 meeting.

Rachel Bancroft: Seconds the motion.

Motion passes unanimously.

Rachel Bancroft: Makes a motion to appoint Jeff Wade, Andrea Thibault and Sam Mroz to the Open Space Committee.

Rae Ann Baldwin: seconds the motion.

Motion carries unanimously.

Steve Przyjemski: Open Space plan has been modified repeatedly. I've sent it out to different boards for support letters. We're sending it back to the state for approval.

Laura Replier: The Open Space Plan has gone back and forth between active and passive, we have a primary access to trails and passive recreation. I feel good about it.

Nick Feitz: I've learned an awful lot.

Lillabeth Weis: I read all the history.

Rachel Bancroft: I'm writing a bylaw. I'm proposing more historic roads, and therefore more protection of trees and stone walls. Trees that are between 20' and 40' tall.

Lillabeth Weis: What about a tree bylaw? I went to a talk at MACC.

Steve Przyjemski: We should tie in Lillabeth's idea with Rachel's bylaw, we can give the roadside trees more publicity and craft a bylaw that encompasses both.

Steve Przyjemski: The selectmen have asked for a presentation on the OSP at 6pm. A lot of this is being tied into Parcel F. The Open Space Plan does not make a suggestion of where Parcel F goes.

Nick Feitz: I didn't see a whole lot of Pentucket Pond and Rock Pond protection.

Laura Replier: I would put it on page 70, under biodiversity. To manage invasive in the Great Ponds. Protecting the water quality and biodiversity of the ponds.

Nick Feitz: Increase awareness of invasives, including resource management, ponds from invasive species, water quality and biodiversity.

Lillabeth Weis: Those type of plants are very nutritious, for animals and compost.

Rae Ann Baldwin: We accept the Open Space Plan for the latest current version

Lillabeth Weis: Seconds the motion

Motion passes unanimously.

Rail Trail:

Steve Przyjemski: They have been spending lots of money to pave it, and we've been telling them for a long time, but they don't hear our concerns.

Laura Replier: We are legally within our rights to deny the paving of the rail trail because it's right off the resources.

Rachel Bancroft: makes a motion to close the meeting.

Lillabeth Weis: Seconds the motion

Motion carries unanimously.

8:37pm Meeting adjourned.

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Discussion:

List of Documents and Other Exhibits used at Meeting:

Documents and Other Exhibits used at meeting will be available for review at: ___the Conservation Office_____

(Office)

Meeting was adjourned at: _____ 8:37pm_____

Next meeting:

Date: _____ December 10, 2015 _____

Time: _____ 7:00pm_____

Place: _____ 3rd Floor Meeting Room_____

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman: _____

(Signature)

Minutes approved by Committee on: __ December 10, 2015__

(Date)