

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
February 10, 2016 at 7:00 PM
TOWN HALL, 41 SOUTH MAIN STREET

In attendance:

Members: Ed Chamberlain (Chair), Michael Mayor (Planning Board Liaison), Peter Christie (Selectmen's Representative), Whit Spaulding

Alternates: Bill Mlacak

Staff: Vicki Smith

Others: Alice Creagh, Dan Nash, Audra Klumb

1. **MINUTES:** The minutes of January 13, 2016 were approved unanimously.

2. **CURRENT BUSINESS**

Wilson's Landing Improvements: Issues discussed by Vicki with neighbors at the site visit with good accord. The Creaghs are concerned with a crowd of boat trailers and other parkers. Changes have been made for the plans to better accommodate parking. The Commission discussed parking in existing FOHC spaces near the barn and that possibility should be investigated. Concern continues to be voiced about parking along the access to the landing. Emergency vehicles have to run on the Creagh's land to get around vehicles parked on the access road. Permitting will proceed per Jim Kennedy pending approval by the CC of the list of improvements. (see attached). Approved unanimously. Peter Christie points out that there are FOHC issues that should be addressed and that may provide an opportunity to allow parking for Wilson's Landing on FOHC parking areas.

Recommendations to ZBA re Taylor wetlands impacts at 2 Goodfellow Road: Taylor representatives Dan Nash, Civil Engineer, Audra Klumb, Wetlands Scientist. Dan Nash presents the plan for the project. OA1 details the alternatives. Common drive in alternate B not favored by Board review. Alternative A, C and D plus logging road that proved too steep briefly detailed on summary sheet. Alternate A is now favored. Squash pipe suggested to minimize downstream slicing, upsized one size from calculated. Flat bottom serves local wildlife well. Arch culvert favored with 2:1 ratio with adequate fill above to spread loads. Footings simplified using massive concrete precast block to stabilize the construct. Culvert consists of corrugated metal segments bolted together. Siting chosen to minimize wetland impacts, enable arch culvert with less impact, promote restoration of wetlands following construction (see Nash's memo). The chair recommends that Nash provide profiles (already fashioned) to clarify the nature of the drives and their slopes (provided in the November submission, dated Oct. 19, 2015). Existing culvert has served well at 24 inches. Staff emphasizes 14 foot maximum driveway width. CC recommendation formulated for presentation to ZBA and discussed. In support of alternate A with 14 foot driveway maximum width, six profiles each on a separate sheet. Moved by Chamberlain, seconded by Christie. Approved unanimously. Question raised re support of the expedited minimum permit application. Impact is well within the square foot maxima cited in the regulations. The Chair indicates support for the expedited permit application. Motion to support approved unanimously. Signature on the expedited permit application provided by Chairman Chamberlain.

Projects and budget requests for FY '17: Budget hearing on Wednesday, 24 Feb, at 5PM with request for \$10,000 to cover listed projects, especially with regard to rational planning for eventual work requiring additional funding. Mellert points out the importance of excellent resource documentation via mapping to promote clarity in planning.

3. RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP

V. Smith has been interacting with landowners to settle compliance issues that may exist.

4. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

Election of Vice Chair: Deferred by the chair pending discussion with prospective vice chairmen.

Jim Kennedy is the March minutes taker

Hugh Mellert is the April minutes taker

Bill Mlacak is the May minutes taker.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Biodiversity Committee: Deer harvest: seven does and one buck on Balch Hill; Hanover: 89 does and 89 bucks (178 total). Deer team meets again on 23 Feb to continue planning. Efforts to establish a deer manager position appear to be stalled.

Open Space Committee: Invasives control and removal is proceeding apace.

Trails Committee: Minutes provided by staff of yesterday's meeting. Specifics reviewed by Chair Mlacak. Clarification suggested by adding date specifics regarding adoption. CC approves mission statement (moved by Mellert, seconded by Mlacak, unanimously approved.) Trescott lands discussion detailed in Feb. 9 minutes with details regarding Dartmouth College's Outdoor Program Office's involvement with Rory Gawler's participation. Suggestion to promote an article on the Trescott Trails to appear in the Valley News, with the benefit that the rules can be made clear and explicit for the public to understand. Kiosks are being prepared to minimize disorientation on the part of trail users. Sense of the meeting is in strong support of the work described in the Feb 9 minutes. Request for monetary support for trail improvements on Balch Hill and signs up to \$800 submitted through Vicki. Approved unanimously.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

Pine Park Meeting: Chair reports that the Town and the College are responsible for the maintenance of Pine Park resources. Specific projects have been identified and proposed for support.

7. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:02 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael B. Mayor, scribe

**NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, March 9, 7:00 PM, Board Room, Municipal Building
Wilson's Landing Improvements**

January 2016

1. Grassed Picnic "Passive Recreation" Area:

- maintain a barrier, such as guard posts, curb stops, or mountable curb or berm 20-30 feet from the south end of the parking area, and also along the river shore.
- relocate the portable toilet to the southeast corner.
- continue restoring the grass in this area.
- remove the invasive shrubs along the south and east ends of the parking area.
- perform regular mowing of the south end and the meadow area to make it more user-friendly.
- provide seasonal picnic tables and benches.
- all of this work can be done under the existing NH Shoreland Permit.

2. Town Dock and Landing:

- remove the creosote wall, replace it with a lower, attractive stone wall.
- make a more secure, lower mounting wall for the dock ramp.
- provide a launching/loading area for canoes and kayaks.
- provide riverside sitting wall or rocks.
- provide seasonal benches.
- install an information kiosk and a dry hydrant.
- this work should only require Minimum local and state permitting.

3. Causeway:

- install guard posts along both edges and repair the shoulders.
- install signs allowing "overflow parking only" along the south edge.
- install a water bar at the top of the hill for drainage and traffic calming.
- this work should fall under Minimum local and state permitting, with no permits required.

4. Riverside Trail:

- clear the invasive shrubs (honeysuckle) in the trail area and along the bank.
- possible new plantings of native shrubs for screening and erosion control.
- provide steps or a ramp from the road to the trail.
- this work could be done under an amended NH Shoreland Permit.
- the Friends of Hanover Crew should be notified about this work.

5. Overflow Parking:

- install signs controlling parking along southern parts of Town right-of-way.
- enter into discussions with Friends of Hanover Crew about using part of the lower meadow on FOHC property for overflow parking.
- any work in this area will require review by the Hanover ZBA and Planning Board.

6. Route 10 Entrance:

- contact NHDOT about signage and pavement marking.
- make the entrance safer for entering and exiting traffic.

Elements of the discussed improvements that have been eliminated:

- filling of the wet meadow on the south end of Wilson's Landing for the purpose of creating a grassed picnic area.
- new culvert in the causeway.
- reducing the width of the causeway.