

**Hooksett Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
April 1, 2009**

Call Meeting to Order: 7:06pm

Attendance: Tim Johnson Chair, Steve Couture Vice Chair, Cindy Robertson Member, James Walter Member, Phil Fitanides Alt- Member, David Ross TC Rep, David Hess Member, Michael Sorel Planning Board Rep

Approval of Minutes: Steve Couture motioned to approve the minutes from March 4, 2009 with changes seconded by Cindy Robertson voted unanimously

Public Input:

Appointments:

Quality Drive – Deb Brewster, TF
Rescheduled to May 6, 2009

Village Water – Joe Hebert
Was not in attendance

Austin Woods Subdivision – Mike Lambert

Tim Coughlin Attorney representing Homes for a Lifetime – This consists of 37 lots and 6 grid section lots. At the time we first came to you we had 8 crossings. All of the crossings are going to be box culverts with the exception of F6. That one we will go into more detail with you later. We have filed for our permits. We have met with both the planning board and Stantec. The agenda item on the Planning Board is for the crossing not for a complete review.

One of the items that you asked to see was the parking areas in order to get to the trails. We have a parking area in one of the grid sections one parking space on each side of the street. We have another area that is identified as potential parking. You had mentioned that you did not want vehicle access. So we would gate it right here.

If you look at the dotted areas they are the location of the detention areas. We have three different areas for cisterns.

You wanted to see where the final trail system would be and that would be the red proposed trail connections the blue exists. If you look near lot 16 and 2 you will see two different trail options. In D8 we were going to do a wooden bridge across and after further investigation we have found a better area for that.

Another item was Pike Industries and the conservation easement. You had asked us the last time where the easements were. We have tried to contact Pike and today we made actual contact with Ted Johnson of Pike. He said he is not involved in the Pike project but he did give me the name of Mr. Donavan and I had left him a message.

Mike Lambert – Can the commission put a meeting together between us to put a conservation easement together?

Tim Johnson – Yes that is something that we can do.

We still have about 6 lots that still have wetlands on it and we would put that into the easement.

Mike Lambert, EMC Environmental Scientist – I would like to start with the alternative crossing. When looking we found an old trail. I have discussed this with DES and they do not count the bridge as a wetlands impact because it is going over water. What I am proposing is a stone ford crossing. The benefit to the stone ford is there is no maintenance. The stone is all natural. We would armor both sides of the crossing with stone. I have discussed this with Fish and Game. I would also like to use erosion control mix.

What we would like to do that with the new trail. I would like to use this mix and I was hopeful we would have some flexibility and build some vegetation and slopes.

I would like to get some direction from the commission in regards to the trail and wetlands buffer. One of the values of this wetland is you can view it. We would not be putting anything in that would be damaging to the wetlands. We would need to change our calculations if this was allowed to occur. To minimize the wetlands impact it would be to come in with 4 foot retaining walls. By doing this we have made a wildlife fence. I then thought well what about a wildlife ramp. They could come up gradually and if they wanted then they could cross the road. This was the best that we could come up with, with what we had to work with.

We have a state nursery that has great plantings and we would be in discussion with them in regards to the larger planting.

You wanted to see a final impact study in regards to the habituate. For every section that we were impacting the setting we took all of the numbers and calculated them. Some habituate will be affected. 39.9 acres will be impacted.

The choice of the seeds is very important since we do have a lot of open space. We will come up with a seeding plan for the areas since they are not all the same. For the entire project we are planning on using round stones.

There will be road signage in the wildlife area. The will be fill on F6 engineers felt it was not a good idea to put a box culvert with stone on the culvert. The best I think we can do is two 36” pipes.

Steve Couture – It seems like you have some alternatives that you are looking at but you are also looking for opinions from us.

Mike Lambert – We are looking for any interest that you may have in holding a conservation easement.

Mike Lambert – Maybe we can itemize what we asked for 1. The stone ford in lieu of the area that is currently located. Change located stream crossing recreational trail and any additional wetlands buffer that would occur in construction the stone ford. 2. Similar issues with the wildlife recreational crossing adjacent to G & H and the impacts of the wetlands buffer. Support trail option A with the additional buffer impact. 3. Would be 2 36” pipes for the wetland crossing.

Steve Couture – As far as the conservation easement we would need to take a vote on that. There are still details that need to be worked out. As far as the crossing it seems premature for us to make a recommendation without the technical review.

David Ross – I have a concern with Lot 26 and you only have a little bit of land that is not impacted on that lot. Lot 33 looks like it has no way into it with no way of not impacting the wetlands.

Mike Lambert – Lot 33 is actually very attractive because it is hidden. There is a road that already runs through there. We have applied to the DES for a permit. We have also applied for a special exception in regards to the wetland buffer impact to the ZBA. Lot 26 is again a very attractive lot because it is hidden and the shared driveway has been built to plan.

Steve Couture motioned to send a letter to both ZBA and PB that we are still supportive of the crossing locations and are supportive of the Stone ford location and supportive of trail option A and we are supportive of the F6 crossing.

David Ross Motioned to send a letter of support to the ZBA the trail change from a wooden bridge to a stone ford, trail option a and the 2 36” pipes, James Walter seconded voted unanimously

Steve Couture motioned to write a letter to DES that conservation commission is supportive of the concept of holding a conservation easement contingent upon the local and state levels seconded by David Ross voted unanimously

Ridgeback Self Storage – Jim Wight, Brown Engineering

Jim Fougere, Schauer Environmental – We are proposing a self storage facility. There is a wetland crossing right here. The wetlands have been disturbed previously. The stream

is about 4ft wide. In terms of the wetlands Jim said he was more than willing to put in a 13ft box culvert that would give a buffer along the edge. Some shore line stabilization will be needed.

Steve Couture – Did the engineers do anytime of Hydraulic studies?

Jim Fougere – I don't know.

David Ross motioned to send a letter to the ZBA that the Conservation Commission supports the implantation of the box culvert as a wise way to handle the water flow Cindy Robertson Seconded. Voted unanimously

Proposed Supermarket – Matt Routhier, All & Major Associates Map 37-2-3; 3,4,5

Robert Clark – Allen & Major Associates – The site 54 & 58 West River Road and 1 Central Park West is the location of the proposed supermarket. We are looking for a positive recommendation to the ZBA.

The project site is 27.9 acres, some of it is surplus DOT land. It is in the mixed use district 3. There is a 135ft PSNH easement that takes up 5 acres of land. It is in the wetland overlay district. We are proposing a 75,000 square foot supermarket and keep buffer zones to the exterior and avoid the wetlands as much as possible. It has a total of 373 parking spaces. We want to minimize the wetlands disturbance.

This site was altered previously due to the construction of route 93. We are also proposing the connection of Central Park West and elevating the dangerous intersection that now exists. The proposed wetland impact would 547sq ft. We would be working in the buffer, and that is why we would be requesting the variance. We would be working in the buffer and maybe installing decking.

Steve Couture motioned to send a positive letter to the ZBA in support of the work in the buffer. Seconded by Cindy Robertson voted unanimously

Commission Reports:

- 1. Open Space Subcommittee** – nothing to report
- 2. Kiwanis Trails Initiative** – Pick up day for trails

Correspondence:

All correspondence was reviewed

Other:

- 1. CTAP Open Space Planning Program** – n/a

2. **Invoices** – Steve Couture motioned to pay Blue Moon invoice Cindy Robertson seconded voted unanimously
3. **Surveys on Clay Pond** – Steve Couture motioned to enter into a contract for \$11,500 with Tom Breit to be paid from our current use fund Cindy Robertson seconded voted unanimously
4. **Blue Moon Environmental** – Letter of authorization and David Ross motioned Cindy Robertson seconded voted unanimously

Non Public – RSA 91-A: 3, II, d

Adjournment: Cindy Robertson motioned to adjourn at 9:31pm seconded by James Walter voted unanimously