

OFFICIAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

May 11, 2015

C. Robertson called the meeting to order at 4:25 p.m.

Attendance: Cindy Robertson, Vice-Chair; JoCarol Woodburn, member; Phil Fitanides, member; Todd Lizotte, Town Council Rep

Excused: Steve Couture, Chair; David Hess, member

Public Input

None.

Meeting Minutes

Continued to the next meeting.

Non-Public Meeting Minutes

Continued to the next meeting.

Other

a. NH Army National Guard, Field Maintenance Shop, 1227 Hooksett Rd.

C. Cronin: We received a letter from the NH Army National Guard in regards to the proposed Field Maintenance Shop across from Cinemagic. They are looking for comments from the Conservation Commission.

C. Robertson: We looked at this previously and had no major concerns. Steve emailed some comments, which are “1. To the maximum extent practicable, the project should avoid impacts of wetlands, streams and their buffers. 2. Best practices must be employed to avoid secondary impacts from blasting (which is expected to be required for this site.) 3. Light pollution is a significant concern due to the proximity to a residential area.” Do anyone else have any other comments or concerns?

P. Fitanides: I’m concerned about the blasting. We should look into that further. I want to know what their blasting plan is.

C. Robertson: OK, we can ask them that. Carolyn can send the comments to them.

b. Head's Pond Conservation Easements

Continued to the next meeting.

c. Warrant Article

C. Robertson: The Town vote is tomorrow. Unfortunately, I wasn't able to give my presentation to the Hooksett-ites, but Dave and I will be at the polls holding signs tomorrow.

d. RFP for Merrimack Riverfront Design, Permitting, Bid Development and Construction Oversight

C. Cronin: We have been told that we have preliminary approval of the DRED RTP grant, but we are waiting on official approval. They told us that any work for the project we do now, can be reimbursed. Steve asked me to start on a RFP. I'm using the information from the Stantec estimates and using the Clay Pond RFP as a template. The RFP is for all the work, not just the bridge so we can use it throughout the project.

e. Merrimack Reserve, Edgewater Dr. Deed Update

C. Robertson: They came to us last month. We had wanted them to include some changes to the deed regarding a picnic area.

C. Cronin: They did include the picnic area language. I wrote a memo from Conservation to Council advising them that you approved the project on April 13th with conditions. I let them know that the stewardship fee has been calculated and that the easement deed has been revised and approved by both the Town and NH Fish and Game, and that you recommend the Council approve this project. The Council will be voting on it this Wednesday.

P. Fitanides: I'm still not sure the road can be discontinued without a Town vote.

T. Lizotte: I'll check my notes but I believe the Attorney said that it could.

f. Internship Update

C. Cronin: I am in the process of interviewing for an intern right now. We received 20 or so applications. There are lots of really good candidates with backgrounds in environmental science, natural resources, conservation, and forestry. I am interviewing three applicants and will decide by the end of week.

i. GPS Unit

T. Lizotte motioned to authorize the Chair or Vice-Chair the ability to authorize purchase of a GPS unit based on the recommendation of Community Development and compatible with ArcGIS. Seconded by P. Fitanides. Motion passed.

g. Other Business: Invoices, Correspondences, Etc.

C. Robertson: The NH Association of Natural Resource Scientists has asked if we want to renew our membership. We are usually a member and they are asking us to renew for \$20. They offer interesting classes.

J. Woodburn motioned to renew membership for the NHANRS for \$20 per year. Seconded by T. Lizotte. Motion passed.

C. Robertson: In the mail, there is a Shoreland Impact permit from DES for Edgewater Drive and a letter from DES regarding Ridgeback Self Storage about their wetlands application.

Non-Public

T. Lizotte motioned to enter non-public session at 5:10pm. Seconded by C. Robertson. Motion passed.

Roll Call:

J. Woodburn – Yes

P. Fitanides – Yes

C. Robertson – Yes

T. Lizotte – Yes

Vote unanimously in favor.

NH RSA 91-A:3 II (d) Consideration of the acquisition, sale, or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community.

C. Robertson motioned to exit non-public session at 5:28pm. Seconded by P. Fitanides. Motion passed.

T. Lizotte motioned to seal the minutes. Seconded by C. Robertson. Motion passed.

T. Lizotte motioned to adjourn at 5:29pm. Seconded by J. Woodburn. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Cronin

Assistant Planner/Conservation Commission Staff Support