

TOWN OF HOOKSETT, NH
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
May 9, 2016

Steve Couture called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Conservation Commission Attendance: Steve Couture-Chair, Cindy Robertson-Vice-Chair, Phil Fitanides -Member, Deborah Miville-Alternate, David Ross- Town Council Representative, JoCarol Woodburn-Alternate

Staff: James Donison

Public Input: N/A

Meeting Minutes: Cindy Robertson moved to approve the meeting minutes for April 11, 2016 with changes, seconded by Jo Carol Woodburn. Motion passed unanimously.

Appointments:

Nick Golan, TFMoran, Lilac Center Phased Development, Phase 2A – Chuckster’s Mini-golf, Map 13, Lot 52 & 56, 51 & 53 Hackett Hill Road - Wetlands Application (9,004 SF of permanent impact to a wetland)

Nick Golan is presenting on behalf of Chuckster’s mini-golf. Originally wetland measured out to be 9,000 SF, but was done in the middle of the Winter. Now that it is Spring, it’s a bit smaller at 7,000 SF with a natural depression. Not a vernal pool and wasn’t designated as valuable wetland. Potential impact for rare and endangered species for turtles, but there were no distinct species onsite. Correspondence is going back and forth with DES. Not really looking for an approval, due to it not affecting wetlands. Steve does want to be consulted on the mitigation process.

a. Merrimack Riverfront Trails

- i. Groundbreaking Ceremony - Steve thinks it would be best to schedule the groundbreaking ceremony in the fall. JoCarol offered to set up a publicity plan, which would include a possible news release.
- ii. Letter to Mr. & Mrs. Mason concerning their interference with the conservation commission’s trail easement. - Steve informed the members that the letter went out and all materials have been removed. The steps need to be taken off the tree to the rope swing and a low hanging rope from tree needs to be taken down.
- iii. Nancy Smith’s split rail cedar fence on east side of trail. - Jim is working on this to be installed by mid-July. Steve suggested as late as possible, but before the public uses the trail.

Motion made by Steve to move forward with Blue Ribbon bid for \$5,760.00 for Virginia Split Rail and seconded by Dave Ross to be paid out of Impact Fees.

- iv. Bad erosion at the existing paved boat ramp. - Stantec proposed to Steve that they would pave in an apron where a natural swale had formed so the trail won’t get

ripped apart. There could be some wash out, but paving the swale will reduce the erosion. Due to not having to take down the chain link fence, there will be a very minimal cost or an even swap because bid included the fence. Maintaining beyond that point is a storm water management issue that needs to be addressed along with some improvements to the entire site.

- v. Change order #1 – Morello Construction, Inc. – Change Order from Morello Construction, Inc. for \$8,286.00 as recommended for approval by Stantec, Inc.

Motion made by Cindy and seconded by JoCarol to approve change order. Motion passed unanimously.

- vi. Morello Construction, Inc., Payment Request #2 Recommendation for \$25,298.46.

Motion made by Cindy and seconded by Phil to approve invoice to be paid from Impact Fees. Motion passed unanimously.

- vii. Oliver Mack, Jr. Eagle Scout Project, Merrimack Riverfront Trails. - Steve asked Oliver what the status was with his Eagle Scout Project. The Town is requesting from Oliver that he provide a list of materials from the companies that have offered donations. The Public Works Department will then purchase the materials, but Oliver should accompany them to make sure he gets all materials he needs. As part of his project Oliver is to go to the surrounding supermarkets to get donations for food and drink for the Scouts that will be assisting. Steve stated that the trail area wouldn't be ready until the end of June, beginning of July to actually install Kiosk.

b. Clay Pond

- i. 2017 RTP Grant Application - Steve stated that they will participate and it will include funding for the parking area, signage, restoration activities, a kiosk, trail development, and maps. Bearpaw will manage it.
- ii. Partnership meeting Tuesday, May 17, 2016 from 9:30 to 12:00 at the Nashua River Watershed Association, 592 Main Street, Groton, MA - This is for the Merrimack River Conservation area. The reason for this meeting is to look at what the partners want to do. Steve has made suggestions to them for the Parks & Recreation trail to connect from Concord to Hooksett. No members are able to attend.
- iii. Signage - Steve wants to follow up on the gates and signs still need to be installed along with the locks and surveillance cameras. Inquire about Parks & Recreation performing the installation.
- iv. Acceptance of draft Clay Pond III Easement Deed with Bear Paw Regional Greenways 73.5 acres. Jim needs to develop a staff report to submit to Council for approval. This still needs to be approved by an attorney.

Motion made by Steve to bring forward to Town Council and to get approved by an attorney, seconded by Cindy. Motion passed unanimously.

- v. Parks and Rec Advisory Board – Info for Recreation Master Plan – No input.
- vi. Planning Board - . Jim informed Steve that the board approved the projects for the SNHU Athletic Complex and dormitory.

d. Mosquito Control

This is an issue raised by Phil. He has acquired some information on bringing dragonflies into the Town to help regulate mosquitos as an alternative to spraying. Phil will continue to get information on this alternative. Steve would like a recommendation from the Town Council as to how to proceed and asked Dave to put it on the agenda.

e. Swift Corwin access to Laurel Road parcel, Map 21, Lot 10.

Steve asked Jim about the access. Jim stated that Swift mentioned the one location that he was going to have access to wasn't the right of way, and the other access is very difficult to access. Swift needs to work with Manchester Water Works to get access to the property through them. Jim will get in touch with him to see what he needs.

Motion made Steve and seconded by Cindy to adjourn meeting. Meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

Minutes respectively submitted by:

Jessica A. Call