

**Sandown Conservation Commission
Minutes
August 14, 2014**

Date: August 14, 2014

Place: Sandown Town Hall

Members Present: Paul Carey – Chair, Brian Butler, Mark Traeger,
Kevin Major, Pam Gaudreau

Selectmen’s Liaison: Mr. Jim Devine: Absent

Environmental Consultant: Mr. Gerry Miller: Present

Opening: Mr. Carey opened the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Review of Permit by Notification for Ray Kane for a seasonal dock pad and retaining wall. The property is located at 53 Pillsbury Rd., Sandown, NH and identified on Map 25 as Lot 21.

Mr. Jason Kane and Mr. Ray Kane presented the application.

Members reviewed the application and the photos of the project. Mr. J. Kane indicated they would like to begin work as soon as the water is down. They are replacing the retaining wall with concrete blocks that can sustain the impact of freezing water.

Mr. Miller noted they should include a plan showing the property and location of the wall and dock pad. Mr. J. Kane noted that since they are repairing an existing wall, DES indicated they didn’t need to include a sketch. He confirmed that he received a permit when the wall and dock pad was originally installed. Mr. Miller recommended they still include a sketch to avoid having the permit kicked back.

Mr. Carey noted they also needed to have the town clerk sign the application.

MOTION: Mr. Traeger made a motion to permit Ms. Cairns to sign the application when the sketch was provided.

Discussion: Mr. Major preferred that a conservation member be the one to review and sign the application once the sketch was provided.

Mr. Traeger withdrew his motion.

MOTION: Mr. Traeger made a motion to permit a member of the Conservation Commission to sign the application outside of the meeting. Mr. Butler seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

Mr. Carey explained that Mr. Kane could bring the application and the sketch to Ms. Cairns for review, she would coordinate getting a signature and then they could go to the Town Clerk.

Meet with potential Environmental Consultant candidates

7:15 p.m. - Marc Jacobs

- He has done peer reviews in Newmarket, Somersworth, Barrington
- He has a lot of experience reviewing proposals

- 51 • He reviewed Sandown's site plan, subdivision and zoning regulations and didn't see
 52 anything out of the ordinary
 53 - He noted that Sandown's lot sizes are based on soils which plays to his
 54 strengths since he is both a wetland and soil scientist
 55 - He has a lot of experience assessing vernal pools
 56 • He served on the Conservation Commission in Barrington for 7 years. He gave it up
 57 because he moved out of town.
 58 • He noted that he doesn't have a minimum fee, but could work with the Commission if
 59 necessary to determine a flat fee for meetings. \$75/hour is his discounted rate.
 60 • Most of the time for reviews, he would give an estimate for his work, which would then
 61 be passed on to the applicant
 62 • He has been on both sides of the table. He knows he needs to strike a balance between
 63 educating the concerned abutter, working with the homeowner and developer and
 64 protecting the interests of the town
 65 • He has done work in MA, ME, NH and NY
 66 • He noted that the state processes and regulations change often, but he does his best to
 67 keep updated on all the changes in legislation and in terms of the DES application
 68 process
 69 • He noted he is not a licensed land surveyor. He is comfortable reviewing plans, but steps
 70 back when he is asked to play engineer.
 71 • Educating the public is important
 72

73 *8:00 p.m. – Craig Bailey*

- 74 • His career has been on the land developer side both commercial and residential
 75 • He has a lot of shoreland protection work
 76 • He has no experience as a wetland scientist. He is trying to implement low-impact
 77 development and low impact designs into his work.
 78 • He would be comfortable passing judgment on plans even though he is a surveyor. He
 79 feels even with his own work, having a second set of eyes is important.
 80 • He did review Sandown's ordinances and noticed the expanded septic setbacks as well as
 81 the CUP.
 82 • He noted his rate is negotiable
 83 • He is comfortable reviewing applications. He knows the tricks that developers try. He can
 84 identify wetlands, but typically hires someone to do the delineation.
 85 • When asked why he wanted the job, he noted that he feels he can only make so much
 86 impact on water and the environment by doing one job at a time. Overall the
 87 Conservation Commission impacts the entire town and he would like to be part of that to
 88 improve the environment and water quality
 89 • Mr. Miller has a long history with the Bailey family and has knows Craig since he was
 90 born.
 91 • Mr. Bailey presented some of his recent projects
 92 • Mr. Miller questioned if he had any experience with forestry management. Mr. Bailey
 93 noted he is in charge of managing Hidden Valley, a 3,200 acre scout camp and has been
 94 doing that since 2005. He works closely with OEP, reading conservation easements and
 95 determining when and where they can do harvests.
 96 • He is good with identifying vegetation, but has very little knowledge of species
 97
 98

99 Members discussed whether it was important for the person to be a certified wetland scientist.
 100 Mr. Miller didn't feel Mr. Bailey could go toe-to-toe with a certified wetland scientist presenting

101 an application. The Commission could always hire a consultant to fill that role if needed. He also
102 noted that a licensed land-surveyor was helpful with knowing property rights and how to read
103 plans. Mr. Traeger noted it would be helpful to keep him as a contact and possibly have him come
104 in to certain meetings. Mr. Miller added that Mr. Bailey brings water quality knowledge to the
105 table which will be important when the new MS4 permit comes.

106
107 The third candidate did not attend for her scheduled time.

108
109 **Review of the 7/24/14 Minutes**

110 **MOTION:** Mr. Traeger made a motion to accept the 7/24/14 minutes as written. Ms. Gaudreau
111 seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. Mr. Butler, Ms. Gaudreau and Mr. Major
112 abstained. The motion passed.

113
114 **Review of the Budget**

115 Members discussed adding an additional \$1,000 to the Environmental Consultant line. Mr. Miller
116 figured that at 4 hours per month, \$75 per hour it would be approximately \$6,600. Members
117 discussed potentially having the consultant for only one meeting per month.

118
119 **MOTION:** Mr. Butler made a motion to move the Environmental Consultant line item to \$5,400
120 which would be 1.5 meetings per month at \$75 per hour. Mr. Traeger seconded the motion. All
121 members voted in favor. The motion passed.

122
123 **MOTION:** Mr. Butler made a motion to keep the recording secretary line item at the same hours,
124 but include the 2% cost of living increase. Mr. Traeger seconded the motion. All members voted
125 in favor. The motion passed.

126
127 **MOTION:** Mr. Butler made a motion to keep all other line items on the proposed budget the
128 same. Mr. Traeger seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

129
130 **Other Business**

131 Mr. Butler asked if Mr. Miller would be willing to go to the registry and find copies of the Porter
132 Property and Greenwood Hook property surveys so they could begin working on the forestry
133 management plan. Mr. Miller agreed he could do that.

134 _____
135
136 Mr. Miller noted there was a potential wetlands violation at 151 Main Street. They cut down
137 several trees and were putting the chips and other items into the wetland. Mr. Traeger noted he
138 would contact them to make them aware.

139
140 **MOTION:** Mr. Butler made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Traeger seconded the motion. Members
141 voted unanimously in favor. The motion passed. Meeting adjourned at
142 9:30 p.m.

143
144 Respectfully Submitted,

145 

146 Andrea Cairns