

Stratham Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes: Wednesday, May 23, 2012

Members present: Dan McAuliffe, Tim Copeland, Bill Grace, Donna Jensen, Bob Keating, Allison Knab

Non-members present: Lincoln Daley, Paul Deschaine, Debbie Foss, Kevin Henry (6 Chisholm), Brian Short (Custom Pools & Spas)

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

6 Chisholm Farm Drive

- The owner of 6 Chisholm Farm Drive, Kevin Henry, brought a revised plan for his pool, including the use of permeable pavers, moving the pool out of the 25-foot wetland setback, and changing the pool to a reniform shape.
- A wetlands survey of the property had been redone.
- Tim motioned, Bob seconded a motion to write a letter to the ZBA in favor of the project as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

Seth Hickey, Recreation Department

- Seth Hickey, Parks & Recreation director, is applying for a federally funded grant with the Trails Bureau to create signage for existing park/town forest trails.
- The proposal includes 2 larger kiosks and 7-8 mini kiosks on park, town forest and private property.
- Seth is looking for CC support for the project, some assistance with information to put in the grant, and future support if the project is funded.
- The Park Association can supply working capital if the grant is received; there is a \$5000 cap on the grant and it requires 20 percent in-kind or financial support from the town.
- The grant is due June 8.
- Tim motioned, Dan seconded a motion to write a letter of support in recommendation of the 80/20 project; the motion passed unanimously.

Planning Board Updates

- *70 Winnicutt Road:* The driveway on the lot has been shifted and a maintenance and grading easement applied. The lot has been approved with conditions; Lincoln noted an appeal is expected
- *39-41 Union Road:* Test pits on the six-acre lot did not meet town requirements but met state requirements and will be allowed. The 800-foot driveway will have four wetland crossings and culverts will be put in to let water flow across. A conservation easement will be put on much of the property.
- *132 Union Road:* A horse farm with nine horses is being run on the two-acre property, with no permitting. Lincoln described the property, which includes wetlands, as having six inches of muck and visible ponding. It has been approved by the ZBA with 13 conditions, including the removal of some horses and temporary stables.

Easement Updates

- *Roberts Property:* Paul expressed concern about a \$5000 flat fee the Southeast Land Trust is including for monitoring the Roberts property. He proposed changed language that would call for long-term monitoring in perpetuity.
- *Jones property:* Paul has not seen a MOU, Donna had one.
- *Goodrich Property:* The property's easements are being redrafted. It was determined that two easements are needed to have the titles track properly. The CC agreed we should have a 3 percent development limit on both properties.

Unitil

- Bill reviewed the permitting book home and did not have any major concerns; he noted the large vernal pool might not be an actual vernal pool. Donna reviewed DES minutes on the project; Eban Lewis did not note any major issues on the project.

Minutes

- Tim motioned, Bob seconded a motion to accept the May 9 minutes with spelling errors corrected and the name Eban Lewis corrected. The motion passed unanimously.

Other

- Donna plans to try and have an agenda ready for each meeting
- A Makris Development site walk was held May 12.
- The DES said it is pleased with the restoration project on the McGrail property.

Tim motioned, Allison seconded adjourning the meeting at 8:41 p.m.

The next Conservation Committee meeting will be held June 13, 2012

Respectfully submitted by Allison Knab, secretary