

Stratham Conservation Commission  
Meeting Minutes: Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Members present: Tim Copeland, Pat Elwell, Brad Jones, Bob Keating, Bill Kenny, Allison Knab, Dan McAuliffe

Non-members present: Lincoln Daley, Debbie Foss, Alexis Makris, Whitney Sidler

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

*Makris Development*

- Representatives of the Bunker Hill Avenue development gave an update. The roads, front pond, and drainage are all in progress. The topography has been “interesting and challenging.” Severino Trucking is building the road.
- A trail is being developed via a natural clearing in the woods. A low-impact machine will be used to more dead trees and remove plants growing on the path.
- A site walk was scheduled for Monday, June 17 at 4p.m.

*Beavers at CMS*

- Paul Deschaine had seen a case study that indicated a DES permit might be needed for the beaver mitigation project. The company involved, Bestway Wildlife Control, spoke with DES and was told no permit was needed. The work is expected to start Saturday.

*Municipal Updates*

- Residents at 19 Winding Brook Drive are going before the Planning Board July 17 regarding plans to add an in-law apartment and larger septic system. The CC may be involved because of wetland/body of water setbacks.
- It was suggested to a Storybrook Lane applicant that they come before the CC because of wetland issues.
- Lincoln notified the board that a Green Infrastructure Grant applied for had been received.
- The PB at its next meeting plans to discuss whether the town should ask for more money to proceed with the Town Center. The board is interested in hearing from other boards and committees as to whether people want to see the TC move further, or be reassessed. The CC discussed the issue; concerns were raised about the money required and whether a TC really makes sense in the area proposed. Lincoln will pass along the CC thoughts to the PB.

*Minutes*

- Tim motioned, Brad seconded a motion to approve the May 22 meeting minutes as amended (Stephanie Frigon spelling). The motion passed unanimously.

*Mail*

- Sandpiper Environmental sent information on the restoration project at 14 Brown Avenue, which they describe as successful following the first growing season
- Unutil will begin its permitted project on May 28 (gas transmission line work).

- A brochure on the NH Coverts Project described the training program/workshop, to be held Sept 18-21.

*Other*

- The CC plans to have a booth at the Stratham Fair (held July 18-21) on fertilizers, which Dena Stern has agreed to work on.
- Southeast Land Trust gave the Jack Heath Award to the town of Stratham; Pat, Donna, Paul Deschaine and Roger Stevenson accepted the award.
- Donna and Pat are considering visiting Zero Waste Now to obtain information, as the company has been unable to come to a CC meeting.
- The CC discussed Run for Your Life, a 'zombie' race proposed for the park. Tim clarified that any approval would have been contingent on the CC and Stratham Hill Park Association agreeing to it. The race will not occur this year but may apply again next year.
- Fat Cod/Matt Gunn has been planting trees around a well on his property; Charles Drive residents have expressed concern that he is in violation of an easement. Lincoln said the tree planning should be limited but may not necessarily be in violation.

Allison motioned, Dan seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05. All voted in favor.

The next Conservation Committee meeting will be held June 26, 2013.

Respectfully submitted by Allison Knab, secretary