Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes, August 26, 2015

Present: Allison Knab, Bill Kenny, Donna Jensen, Tim Copeland; Town Planner Lincoln Daley, Town Administrator Paul Deschaine

Public Session

The public session was called to order at 7:05pm.

Mailbox

The Conservation Commission received an invoice from the NH Association of Conservation Commissions for its 2016 membership. The commission will wait to vote on paying the dues until it has a new budget (2015 budget is used up).

Stratham Heritage Commission

The Town has applied for an LCHIP grant to protect the Lane Homestead located at the Stratham Circle.

The Heritage Commission wishes to nominate the property for preservation to the NH Preservation Alliance's list of Seven to Save.

Bill Kenny moved, and Tim Copeland seconded a motion for the Conservation Commission to support the Heritage Commission's bid to place the homestead on the Seven to Save list. The motion passed unanimously.

Rollins Farm Development

The Planning Board reviewed the commission's letter and continues to support Gove Environmental wetland delineation of the property.

Cindy Balcius from Stone Ridge Environmental (SRE) confirmed the lack of vernal pools on the property adjacent to the proposed residential lots 25-28.

The Rollins Farm development property owner wishes to have the open space held in covenant and not in an easement. The owner wishes to have the Town hold executory privileges.

Town Planner Lincoln Daley continues to work on the Operations and Management Plan for the development. The plan is coming together like a Planned Unit Development (PUD). The Town doesn't have a PUD ordinance; nearly every homeowner association activity will be regulated.

The plan may be available for Planning Board review by September 19.

High Street/Willow Brook 9-lot Development

The commission reviewed a proposed plan for a 9 lot development. RCCD will witness all test pits. There are no wetland impacts for the proposed development.

Municipal Updates

Town Center

The Town Center project only received 1 bid for the project, which was priced over budget. The construction drawings will be put out to bid next year, anticipating better response before the construction season.

NHPTV

NH public television has selected Stratham as the subject of its final Home Town series. The program will coincide with the 300th anniversary of Stratham in 2016.

Stratham Stormwater and Wetlands Regulations Revisions

Subcommittee for the PREPA grant kicks off this month. Donna and Allison will be representing the commission as the town seeks to update its regulations on stormwater and wetlands.

Zarnowski Easement

SELT is developing the final language for the property easement. The land has been used as NHDES/EPA mitigation for the wetland impacts from the new town road constructed behind the Subaru dealership off of River Road.

Short Property Easement

SELT is verifying the easement coordinates on the property by GPS. Duane will verify the boundaries of the easement on the property adjacent to the Gordon Barker Town Forest.

Education to Protect Great Bay

Paul Deschaine mentioned 3 ways to educate homeowners about septic maintenance to protect the Great Bay: selectmen's email blast; May selectmen's dog license letter; and Dena's radio spots about conservation.

At 7:51pm Donna Jensen moved and Time Copeland seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed.

The next meeting is scheduled for Sept 9, 2015 at 7:00pm at the Municipal Center.

Respectfully submitted, Donna Jensen, Secretary