

## **Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes, October 14, 2015**

Present: Pat Elwell, Bob Keating, Bill McCarthy, Donna Jensen, Bill Kenny, Tim Copeland. Also Lincoln Daley, Town Planner

### **Public Session**

The public session was called to order at 7:03pm.

### **Meeting Minutes**

Meeting minutes for Sept 23 were reviewed. Donna Jensen suggested an edit regarding the language around the *possibilities of future residential fertilizer use regulations*. Pat Elwell moved, Bob Keating seconded the motion to accept the meeting minutes as revised. The motion passed unanimously.

### **November Con Com Meeting**

The first meeting in November is scheduled for Veteran's Day Nov 11. The second regularly scheduled meeting is the Wed before Thanksgiving, November 25, a meeting that is typically cancelled. The Pat Elwell moved, Bob Keating to cancel both regularly scheduled meetings and to meet on Thursday November 19. The motion passed unanimously.

### **PREPA Grant Subcommittee Meeting**

The committee will be considering ordinances and/or land use changes related to site plan regulations for fertilizers and buffers for sensitive wetland resource areas.

Donna raises some issues with the Con Com that the subcommittee had discussed regarding buffer distances for wetlands (all wetlands versus some wetlands). The commissioners opined that they would prefer that a wetland functional analysis point system *NOT* be used in updated regulations (such as those used in Kingston, NH). The proposed more stringent regulations would be preferred to be on *NEW* construction and that the existing regulations be grandfathered for current residential lots.

### **Rollins Hill Development Operations and Management Plan Review**

Lincoln Daley stated that the revised O&M plan would be available for the commission to review. The Planning Board will be reviewing the revised plan on Nov 4.

Declarations of covenants document did not include enforcement provisions regarding annual reporting for the O&M plan. This will need to be added.

### **Municipal Updates**

High Street subdivision is moving forward in the planning board. The proposed 9-lot neighborhood will not have any anticipated wetland impact, and thus, no Con Com project review. Pat Elwell did note that there are wetlands on the properties, if not building impacts and she wishes for boulders or some items be added to the lots to delineate the 25 foot "no touch" wetland buffer barrier.

Pat Elwell suggested wetland education for land owners, including septic system care and homeowner education kits that could be used for Rollins Farm homeowners.

### **Short Property Easement**

Friday October a site walk was held with Debra Gourd from SELT. Donna Jensen, Bob Keating, and Bill McCarthy attended. The site walk was discussed. The trails need signage to show where users should STAY OUT and not trespass on the easement exclusion area. During the site walk, individuals noted the trails need better blazes/markers to keep people on proper trails, and OFF OF TRAILS that are meant ONLY for landowner use to access their property and buildings, including up the homeowner's driveway. Tim Copeland and Paul Deschaine expressed their agreement with the current easement. Bill Kenny suggested moving the yellow jacket trail so that it did not go into the easement exclusion area. There are no town resources to move the trail but perhaps SELT could help in that regard.

Paul Deschaine noted that the baseline drawing needs to be corrected, as there is a mistake in the GPS coordinates, probably due to multiple devices/people creating the GPS boundary locations set in the conservation easement. There is no timeline set to make changes to trails or correct the drawing. Bill asked Debra and SELT to create a number of options to present to the Town and then the land owner.

### **Agriculture Working Group/Planning Board**

Currently Stratham needs to adopt the State RSA 21:34A as amended to define agri-tourism, farmers markets, and farm stands, and there is some delay in assessing and determining those definitions. The group currently provided a draft document to the public for comment during October.

An official Agricultural Committee may be developed that can advise the planning board as necessary and meet on an ad hoc basis.

### **Hazard Waste Day**

Bob Keating volunteered on Hazardous Waste Day in October. He said that there were more people than last year and the group collected approximately \$500 more in donations than last year.

### **Casella Waste Management**

A company representative will attend the October 28 Con Com meeting to describe the company recycling program and services.

At 9:31pm Bob Keating moved and Pat Elwell seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 28 at 7:00pm at the Municipal Center.

Respectfully submitted, Donna Jensen, Secretary