

**Stratham Conservation Commission
Public Meeting
October 28, 2015**

Conservation Commission Members Present: Tim Copeland, Pat Elwell, Bob Keating, Bill Kenny, Allison Knab, Bill McCarthy

Meeting Called to order @ 7 PM

Dave Allen from the Casella Recycling Program and Paul Deschaine were present to discuss the Town's recycling program. Paul explained 2-3 years ago the town entered into a recycling agreement with Bestway that Casella subsequently acquired. The recycling standards are not clear, we never received notice from Casella as to whether Stratham had single stream and we received an advertising flyer featuring a rolling recycling bin which turned out not to be available for residential pick up. Paul and the CC thanked Dave for attending so we could be clear on recycling services and pass info onto residents.

In general, the industry term for recycling all materials together – i.e., putting all materials in one bucket that the recycling company takes the responsibility for sorting – is called “co-mingled” recycling. Casella's trademark term for the same type of recycling is “zero-sort.” This does not mean mixing recycling with trash.

Dave explained in more detail what can and cannot be recycled:

fiber products are those that rip: such as cardboard, boxboard like cereal boxes newspaper, magazines, envelopes, used coffee cups. grey, colored, brown, white all ok Pizza boxes ok, toss liner

metals: aluminum, tin/steel containers like soup and pet food cans, foil, empty aerosol cans (discard caps)

plastics: numbered plastics with arrows around numbers are not standardized. but Casella will take all #1-7 rigid plastics i.e. laundry detergent, plastic bottles, milk cartons (example of plastic not rigid: plastic grocery bag. these are actually a contaminant in the recycling process so please do not place products into plastic bags! Recycling items are preferred rinsed and without caps.

glass: food jars. no light bulbs, dishes, pyrex, drinking glasses or vases, window panes or ceramics. All items should be lightly rinsed, do not want large clumps of food.

Casella will work with the town to provide more town-specific recycling pr materials. The CC will be using the info provided to include more detailed information in an article to residents through the Stratham Magazine.

Pat asked about the possibility of composting. Dave discussed Hamilton, Mass

composting program. In order to control costs, it does bi-weekly curbside trash collection utilizing small trash bins, but weekly compost and recycling collection with larger bins.

Hanover, NH and Burlington, VT started with pilot programs if we want to discuss further with them.

Allison provided a Town Forest/Park ad hoc committee update. Charlie Morano, Forester, gave the committee an overview of his recommendations of a forest management plan for both the park and the town forest. The group would possibly like to have a survey/poll using SHP, CC and Rec dept. and library Facebook accounts to generate interest. He feels there can be an open view corridor with selective removal of trees, emphasized that he feels that they do not all need to be removed, and addressed keeping understory and animal habitat. Another site walk was recommended and the details needed for tower clearing need to be clarified. Paul cautioned awareness of the cost of another sitewalk and because there is limited funding to complete this project.

Rollins Hill Development. Lincoln met with developer to discuss various documents. There MAY be a PB action next week Lincoln will provide draft Operation and Management documentation and since we will not be having another meeting soon, CC members need to weigh in on O&M document with individual email responses to Lincoln. Rob Roseen will be lead engineering consultant for the roadway.

High Street subdivision. This project is being completed by Tim Mason. He discussed concerns about encroaching wetlands with PB and despite CC recommendations to place a physical barrier such as boulders along the setback line, as have been required in other projects, the PB only required the placement of medallions delineating the wetlands.

Per Lincoln, the PB is looking at revising stormwater and land use regulations/ordinances.

New businesses

Lincoln Daley announced that he is leaving his position as Town Planner and will be taking another job with another town as of Friday Nov, 13. The CC asked how this would impact PREPA and warrant articles. There will be an interim period, and possibly the town would be using RPC as a consultant

Short property. Seth Hickey and SELT are updating correcting revised mapping of trails. After that is done they will be coming into the CC to clarify the accuracy. This will most likely impact the location of the Yellow Jacket trail but will need to also go through the Selectmen since this is all part of the easement. A bridge on the trails over a brook needs to be repaired and Seth will be filing a wetlands application to take care of this work.

Cell tower proposal. The Town is currently looking at requesting a curb cut for a roadway to run parallel to the Foss driveway to be able to access. This would require

additional tree cutting. The town must approve this structure at the Annual Town meeting.

No non-public session was necessary. The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:40.

Respectfully Submitted:

Pat Elwell