

09/13/2017 Conservation Commission Minutes

Attendees

Angela Ficco
Sarah McGraw
Scott Orzechowski
Jeremy Rhodes
Dale Smith-Kenyon

City Staff/Others Present

Shanna Saunders, Planning Director

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:02 PM by Scott Orzechowski

1) Old Business

- Michelle Poulin has resigned from the commission

2) New Business

- Arthur Gagnon seeks a conditional use permit to build within the wetland buffer on Lily Pond Rd/Coles Pond Rd
 - Design as submitted will require dredge and fill of app. 6400 sq ft.
 - Design also requires setback variance
 - Septic/well required on site
 - Site would be 45000 sq ft of wetland, 9800 sq ft impermeable; this would violate 19.13.6E as it exceeds 10% of buffer.
 - Scott Orzechowski notes a discrepancy between Granit maps and submitted; applicant's representative notes that the submitted were verified by soil scientists.
 - Shanna Saunders notes the possibility of a site walk for this property.
 - Scott Orzechowski notes concerns around borders to aquifer/wetland and outflow; applicant states that their design will not permit outflow from septic.
 - Jeremy Rhodes notes that this property is likely within drinking water protection area, requiring waiver for well/septic as well.
 - Sarah McGraw notes possibility of offset/conservation as a counterbalance to development
 - Dale Smith-Kenyon questions possibility of additional culverts to permit flowthrough; applicant agrees
 - Concerns raised:
 - Bordering properties and encroachment into their buffers
 - Placement of septic system
 - Additional culverts
 - Amount of impervious surface, and need for mitigation
 - Potential easement encroachment
 - Maintenance planning, including deicing
 - Drinking Water Protection Area impacts
 - Site Walk suggested; scheduled for 9/23

- Dale Smith-Kenyon moves to table until site walk, Jeremy Rhodes seconds. Carries unanimously
- Kristen Davenport (Recreation Department) spoke to commission to discuss information from the Trails conference
 - Conference focused on Sustainability/Accessibility of trails
 - ADA does cover trails, but practicality and construction concerns are factored in.
 - Need for community support and involvement with trail creation is key.
 - Best Practices are published
 - Local funding, including corporate support (Timberland, Keen, Liberty Mutual) noted
- Member Items
 - Angela Ficco raised concerns around lighting on High School trail; Shanna notes that this would be part time
 - Sarah McGraw notes that the Malley Farm trails are not well marked, but could be good candidates for inclusion. Fish and Game may be able to assist with this.
- Somersworth Sustainability report – Tabled
- Riparian and Wetlands Buffer Ordinance is with Bob Belmore/Dana Hilliard
- Other New Business
 - Angela Ficco notes formation of youth hiking groups through schools is underway
 - Grants are being applied for for Jules Bisson playground
 - SRTC Maps – Shanna to seek updates
 - Sarah McGraw requests a park inventory; Shanna that this is in the list, looking to Spring.
 - Mast Point trail naming; City Manager provided guidelines, do not appear to restrict naming.
 - NHACC conference coming on 11/4

Dale Smith-Kenyon moves to adjourn, Sarah McGraw seconds, carries. Meeting adjourned at 8:44 PM

Respectfully submitted, Jeremy Rhodes (Secretary)