

TOWN OF NEWMARKET, NH
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
 November 10, 2016

7:00 PM Council Chambers

Members Present: Jeff Goldknopf (Chair), Drew Kiefaber (Vice Chair), Ann LaFortune, Patrick Reynolds, Bob Gazda (Alternate), Ezra Temko (Planning Board Rep), and Phil Nazzaro (Town Council Rep - Ex-Officio)

Members Absent: Andrea Sellers (Treasurer), Marianne Hannagan, Julia Sinclair (Alternate) excused

Called to Order: 7:04 PM

Agenda Items:

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**

2. **Roll Call**

The Chair appointed **Bob Gazda** as a voting member for this meeting.

3. **Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

With speakers present in the audience, the Chair asked to move the agenda forward to items under Old/New Business. There was no objection.

8. **Old/New Business**

New Business:

Underwood Engineers-Town of Newmarket-Young Lane: Mr. Phil MacDonald, Underwood Engineers, attended to speak this evening about a Town of Newmarket plan to drainage improvements, water improvements, and road reconstruction on Young Lane (from Rt. 108 to New Road). Materials for this presentation were emailed to the members and additional copies were provided this evening. This project initially requires filing three permits: Alterations of Terrain (AOT), Shoreland, and a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permits for storm water discharge required by the EPA and DES. They have met with the Fish & Game, DES, and the AOT permit reviewer for a pre-project planning meeting. The reviewers requested that alternate plans be considered by Underwood Engineers, but those proposed by Underwood were too difficult to pursue. The mitigating devise which is planned and the outfall area will need to be checked twice per year for maintenance. The Town will prepare the EPA required MS4 plan. This project will cost approximately \$1.5 million dollars and is not part of the capital improvement list. The project will be funded through the Capital Reserve Fund. Letters have already been sent to the abutters. As these permits have been expedited, LRAC is likely to have insufficient time to comment. Mr. MacDonald noted that are more changes coming. The AOT permit application process can take 90 days. He expects that this project may begin in February (the full construction season is six months per year). The entire project may take two years to complete.

Action

Motion: **Ezra Temko** moved that the Conservation Commission sign the permit for expedited review.

Second: **Drew Kiefaber**

Vote: Approved 6-0

The Chair will sign all the copies of the permit requests and deliver them to Diane Hardy. We thanked Mr. MacDonald for his presentation and Rick Malasky for providing additional information. The Conservation Commission looks forward to receiving a set of the final plans.

The meeting returned to the agenda.

4. Approval of Minutes

October 13, 2016:

Action

Motion: Drew Kiefaber moved that the minutes of October 13, 2016 be approved as drafted.

Second: Ann LaFortune

Vote: Approved 4-0-2

October 13, 2016 - Notes from the Non-Public Session:

Action

Motion: Ezra Temko moved that the Notes from the Non-Public Session of October 13, 2016 be approved as drafted.

Second: Ann LaFortune

Vote: Approved 4-0-2

5. Treasurer's Report

The Chair mentioned that the Schoppmeyer Fund currently holds \$50,383, but does not include the \$3,000 currently being held by the Trustees of the Trust after the collection at the memorial service. A meeting with the Trustees will be required to seek approval for moving the money into the fund.

6. Committee and Subcommittee Reports

Town Council: Phil Nazzaro had nothing to report from the Council meetings concerning the CC.

Planning Board: Ezra Temko was unable to attend the previous PB meeting. However, he mentioned the agenda for the next meeting on Tuesday, November 15 will include two important issues for the CC: (1) Jarib M. Sanderson Trustee of Robin Realty Newmarket Trust/Tuck Realty Corporation – Continuation of public hearing for an application for Subdivision and Special Use Permit, for property at 36 Dame Road, Tax Map U2, Lots 297 & 320, R1 Zone. The proposal is for an 11 unit residential open space design development. The Special Use Permit will allow a 150 square foot wetland impact pursuant to Section 5.03 Paragraph (F) of the Wetland Overlay District of the Zoning Ordinance and (2) Maplewood & Vaughn Holding Co., LLC, & NIP-LOT6, LLC – Continuation of a public hearing for an application Major Site Plan Review, at 2 Forbes Road, Tax Map R3, Lot 9-6; 175 Exeter Road, Tax Map R3, Lot 6; 177 Exeter Road, Tax Map R3, Lot 7; 181 Exeter Road, all in the B2 Zone. The project consists of constructing two new industrial buildings (approximately 14,000 sq. ft. and 20,000 sq. ft.) along with a 12,000 sq. ft. addition on the existing industrial on Lot 9-6.

The Planning Board sub-committee for the Future Land Use Chapter welcomes members of the CC to join.

7. Chairman's Report

Citizen Concern Regarding Plans Involving Pond Street: A citizen, who owns a home on Pond Street, expressed concerns to the Chair about a house which was purchased by the School District for the possibility of moving the exit of the Elementary School. He is concerned about water run-off into Moonlight Brook and wishes that the Conservation Commission become involved since the initial plan by the District seems to be to put pavement down for additional parking.

Fall 2016 SELT Newsletter: <http://seltnh.org/newsletter/> includes information on the Fall Foliage Fund Raiser on November 11, 2016.

Newmarket Recreation Dept. Thank You Note: The Conservation Commission received a thank you note from the Recreation Dept. thanking us for supporting the 1st Annual Lamprey River Splash and Dash event on August 20. It was a great success!

8. Old/New Business (continued)

Old Business:

Schoppmeyer Park: The Schoppmeyer Park Committee recently met with the Newmarket Community Church group. Subsequently, they met with the Town Council in Non-Public Session to seek their approval to move forward with the purchase of an easement on U2-Lot 272, 10 N. Main Street. The price of \$60,000 was agreed upon with a hand shake. Val Shelton has agreed to work with the Town on the easement language. A site walk was held. The Church would like the lawn area mowed (which **Phil Nazzaro** believes that the Town DPW will do). They requested that dogs be allowed “off leash” as well as bike racks be allowed. All maintenance of the Park and will be paid for from conservation funds or any additional monies through fund raising. It was suggested by **Patrick Reynolds** that LRAC might be interested in helping or planning. Ellen Snyder has a few concerns about the area along the river and about a small fishing dock. The draft easement will come back to the CC later. The fund raising letter has been modified and efforts are being made to raise awareness by putting information in the weekly Town Newsletter and on DCAT. So far, 120 letters have been mailed by Richard Shelton at a cost of \$76.39.

Action

Motion: **Jeff Goldknopf** moved that the Conservation Commission reimburse Richard Shelton, Chairman of the Schoppmeyer Park Committee, in the amount of \$76.39 to cover postage for the initial fundraising effort.

Second: **Ann LaFortune**

Vote: Approved 6-0-0

The Chair would like to thank all those who have generously donated so much time and effort to see that this project goes forward! **Jeff Goldknopf** will draft a letter shortly for the in-kind survey services from Doucet Survey, Inc. for the property.

Dearborn Property Donation: The donation of the property has been approved by the Town Council. The deeds have been signed, but still need to be stamped. Steve Walker from the Conservation Land Stewardship Program of the Office of Energy and Planning (OEP) is waiting to go onto the site to review the property with members of the CC. The CC needs to survey the property and have the lines marked.

Wiggin Farm Mowing Agreement: The Chair announced that the Mowing Agreement has been signed by Mr. Russell. Steve Walker, or other representatives from OEP, will be monitoring the property shortly.

Piscassic-Loiselle Kiosk Map: **Julia Sinclair** will report on this at the next meeting.

Easement Monitoring Schedule:

- **Piscassic-Loiselle:** **Jeff Goldknopf** and his dog completed the monitoring! No issues were found. He did hear a waterfall and noticed a beaver dam about a foot tall crossing the river.
- **Silverman-Schneer:** Scheduled for November 1, the monitoring did not occur because of time conflicts. **Andrea Sellers** mentioned that she might do it alone. The Chair will check with her.
- **Smith Sisters Audubon:** **Drew Kiefaber**, **Ann LaFortune**, and **Marianne Hannagan** completed the monitoring on November 6. An ATV path was discovered as it crossed over a stone wall (previously damaged by loggers) on the north side of Follett's Brook. The ATV turned around and went back causing no significant damage. The fields have not been mowed in several years and should be mowed in the near future to keep them open. In the past, the NH Audubon worked very hard to

eradicate the Japanese Knotweed in the sand pit area, but it has now returned and is spreading on the sandy hillside. The monitoring report along with photos will be submitted to DES with a copy to Phil Brown, Director of Land Management for the NH Audubon. The CC will request some Audubon tags/signs to post along the damaged stone wall area.

- New Roots Farm: **Drew Kiefaber** plans to contact New Roots shortly for a convenient time to monitor.

The SELT will perform the monitoring of the Hilton Easement and they will send a copy to the Conservation Commission once completed. Steve Walker from OEP will complete the monitoring of the Wiggin Farm and send a copy to the Commission.

9. Adjournment

Action

Motion: **Ezra Temko** moved that the meeting be adjourned.

Second: **Drew Kiefaber**

Vote: Approved 6-0-0

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 PM.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 8, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Frick, Recording Secretary