

TOWN OF NEWMARKET, NH
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
 June 14, 2018

7:00 PM Council Chambers

Members Present: Patrick Reynolds (Chair), Ann LaFortune (Treasurer), Andrea Sellers, Drew Kiefaber (Alternate), Sarah Finch (Planning Board Rep), and Casey Finch (Town Council Rep - Ex-Officio)

Members Absent: Marianne Hannagan (Vice Chair) and Cris Blackstone

Called to Order: 7:04 PM

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**

2. **Roll Call**

The Chair appointed **Drew Kiefaber** as a voting member this evening.

3. **Public Comments**

Richie Shelton, Chair of the Schoppmeyer Park Committee, attended the meeting to update the members on the progress being made to date. On May 24, 2018 he made a presentation to the Newmarket Business Association with a slide show. Portsmouth Sign Company from Newington will be making the signs for the park. They have had a few unforeseen expenses for survey and permit requests. A hand rail is being built and donated. On June 4, 2018 DES accepted the application for the docking system and kayak launching system and LRAC wrote a letter of approval for the application. The parking area is currently being used by American Excavating employees in exchange for finishing the driveway with gravel when they are done working on Rt. 108. The park dedication is being planned for July 28, 2018 at 10:30 am. They would like folks to RSVP to get a head count for refreshments. More information will be forthcoming on this exciting event. The CC thanked Richie and his committee for their hard work and for keeping the members up-to-date. **Patrick Reynolds** mentioned that we have the DES application to review tonight under old/new business.

**The Chair asked to revise the agenda to accommodate an item from
 Old/New Business. There was no objection.**

8. **Old/New Business**

Wetland Permit – 81 Exeter Road: Eric Dewitt, owner of 81 Exeter Road, Tap Map U3, Lot 137, B1 Zone, is back before the CC seeking a letter of approval for his wetland permit for the placement of a parking lot next to a proposed 2,920 sq. ft., two-story mixed use building (first floor commercial and second floor residential-8 micro units). The parking lot would fall within the wetland setback. He plans to use a semipermeable surface material as pavement which is rated for snow blowers and plows and has a 20 year expected life. There would be a 3% grade in the parking lot toward the wetland. He came back to our meeting and provided the engineering reports. The members reviewed the reports/plans and asked questions which were satisfied.

Action

Motion: **Andrea Sellers** moved that the Conservation Commission write a letter of support for the site development plan of 81 Exeter Road as presented this evening.

Second: **Sarah Finch**

Vote: 4-1-0

The Chair will draft a letter and email it to all members for comments and suggestions.

The meeting returned to the agenda.

4. **Approval of Minutes**

April 12, 2018:

Action

Motion: **Ann LaFortune** moved that the minutes of April 12, 2018 be approved as drafted.

Second: **Andrea Sellers**

Vote: Approved 4-0-1

May 10, 2018:

Action

Motion: **Drew Kiefaber** moved that the minutes of May 10, 2018 be approved as drafted.

Second: **Ann LaFortune**

Vote: Approved 5-0-0

5. **Treasurer's Report**

Ann LaFortune reported that the CC currently has a balance of \$310,622.49. A \$250.00 check donated from LOCO Sports for the use of Schanda Park was deposited. The check for the Annual Newmarket Fishing Derby has been disbursed (\$1,500.00).

6. **Committee and Subcommittee Reports**

Town Council: **Casey Finch** had nothing to report for this meeting.

Planning Board: **Sarah Finch** reported that at the PB meeting on Tuesday, they accepted the application for 81 Newmarket Road and forwarded the application to the CC for consideration.

7. **Chairman's Report**

Fishing Derby: The Annual Newmarket Fishing Derby is a wonderful family-oriented event! It begins at 7:00 am on Saturday, June 16. Please consider attending with those young anglers in your family!

Schoppmeyer DES Permit Application: The application was received in the mail and will be considered in old/new business. LRAC has sent a copy to the CC of their letter in support of the non-motorized water craft structure.

12 Smith Garrison: The CC received a copy of the approved permits we discussed at the last meeting. No action required.

Lincoln Ave. U2 Lot 243: A copy of the letter approving construction of a new home. No action required.

Rockingham County Conservation District Program: The RCCD is contacting all CC's in the county to ask each to submit a proposal for an invasive species removal program on conservation lands which are

considered “working lands”. Five towns will be selected and a plan will be worked out for those selected. The members thought that Wiggins and Piscassic-Loiselle would be a great properties to suggest. Multiple properties may be submitted. The Chair will contact Arianna Spear, Conservation Technician with RCCD, to discuss the deadline date for the application and what they define as “working land”. The program will be funded by the USDA.

Other Mail Received: 1) DES letter for the Oyster Reef Restoration project rec’d, 2) DES letter regarding 7 Bay View Drive, 3) DES approval regarding 12 Smith Garrison Road, 4) Shoreland Permit Submission Permit for 2 Osprey Lane and 5) Approved permit notification for the Oyster Reef Restoration project. No action required on these letters.

Application from the Newmarket Recreation Department for the Use of Schanda Park: The first request was approved by the CC on March 15, 2018 for fewer dates. A revised request has now been submitted for approval of the use of Schanda Park for the “Arts in the Park” summer concert series from June 26 to August 28.

Action

Motion: Patrick Reynolds moved that the CC permit the use of Schanda Park by the Newmarket Recreation Department for the “Arts in the Park” concert series on Tuesday evenings from 5:00-8:30 pm from June 26 to August 28, 2018.

Second: Andrea Sellers

Vote: Approved unanimously

8. Old/New Business (cont)

Schoppmeyer Park Wetlands Permit: The permit request was previously discussed during the meeting.

Action

Motion Drew Kiefaber moved that the CC approved the DES wetlands permit for the seasonal docking system at Christian Schoppmeyer Memorial Park.

Second: Ann LaFortune

Vote: 5-0-0

The Chair will sign the permit and submit it.

Heron Point Sanctuary –Gate Estimate: Casey Finch was very successful in getting estimates as well as help from the Town Facilities Director, Greg Marles, who has installed a similar gate before in another town. He emailed members the estimate information before the meeting. Granite State Gate Systems would charge approximately \$10,010. The Town can do the whole project for \$6,197 including the utilities hook-up. What a deal! Multiple remotes would be purchased and placed into all emergency and first response vehicles.

Drew Kiefaber noted that we should contact the Heron Point Estates Co-op Board to let them know about our plan. Casey Finch will speak with the TA to get approval and discuss the next step with the Co-op Board.

Neal Mill Property Remediation: Andrea Sellers asked if we should check the progress of the required remediation. Patrick Reynolds mentioned that there is also a new dirt pile in front of the stone wall and gate which currently blocks access to the class VI road for pedestrians onto conservation land. Drew Kiefaber has received some emails about this pile and will forward them to the Chair.

Neal Mill Parcel: We have not yet heard from Duane Hyde about the planned Neal Mill Road purchase.

9. **Adjournment**

Action

Motion: **Patrick Reynolds** moved that the meeting be adjourned.

Second: **Andrea Sellers**

Vote: Approved unanimously

The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 PM.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, July 12, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Frick, Recording Secretary