

TOWN OF NEWMARKET, NH
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
 May 10, 2018

7:00 PM Council Chambers

Members Present: Patrick Reynolds (Vice Chair), Andrea Sellers (Treasurer), Cris Blackstone, Marianne Hannagan, Drew Kiefaber (Alternate), Sarah Finch (Planning Board Rep), and Casey Finch (Town Council Rep - Ex-Officio)

Members Absent: none

Called to Order: 7:05 PM

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**

2. **Roll Call**

All present.

3. **Public Comments**

Terri Schoppmeyer came to the meeting tonight to discuss the signage that she is preparing along with Dick Lord for the Schoppmeyer Park kiosk. The Vice Chair suggested that they look at the aerial maps used at the Wiggin Farm and the new maps at Piscassic Loiselle (created by Ellen Snyder of Ibis Consulting). Ellen Snyder is on the Schoppmeyer Committee and would be the best person to ask. He also suggested that they include hours the park is available and pet rules.

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

8. **Old/New Business**

Wetlands Permit – 12 Smith Garrison Road: Roberta Woodburn, Woodburn & Company Landscape Architecture LLC of Newmarket, presented the plans outlining the wetlands permits required for the proposed changes to 12 Smith Garrison Road. The changes fall within the 100 ft. setback. They have prepared new drawings to present to the Town and the CC. The work proposed includes: 1) removal of the swimming pool – one foot down and fill it in, 2) remove the deck and replace with loam for a grassy area, 3) add a spa on a pad near the house, and 4) add a screened porch (which is the main reason for the variance required within the 100 ft. setback). The overall impact to impervious surface is negative 705 sq. ft., therefore all changes will be made in the “pre-built area” as defined by the State. This is a minimum impact expedited request.

Action

Motion: **Ann LaFortune** moved that the CC sign the wetlands permit application for proposed changes to the property located at 12 Smith Garrison Road.

Second: **Andrea Sellers**

Vote: 5-0-0

The Vice Chair signed the application and the members thanked Ms. Woodburn for attending the meeting.

Wetland Permit – Proposed Oyster Reef Restorations on the Lamprey River by UNH and TNC:

Dr. Ray Grizzle, Research Professor of Zoology at UNH and oyster reef restoration practitioner, presented information on two Wetland Permit applications for proposed oyster reef restoration projects planned

collaboratively between UNH and The Nature Conservancy (TNC). Also present tonight is Krystin Ward, Research Assistant at the Jackson Estuarine Laboratory, who is working with Dr. Grizzel on this project. Brianna Group, Oyster Conservation Coordinator, from the TNC will also be part of this project collaboration and is also present at the meeting. The permit requires expedited review with minimum impact and no mitigation requirement. The work will be done in the Lamprey River and the Squamscott River. They are attempting to rebuild the populations in these sites because both the Lamprey and Squamscott Rivers have natural reef sites crucial for the success of this project. Funding for this project comes from the USDA through the Natural Resource Conservation Service. He described in detail the monitoring/restoration plans and placement of the shells from the barge.

Action

Motion: **Cris Blackstone** moved that the CC sign the wetlands permit application for UNH/TNC Oyster Reef Restoration Project.
Second: **Marianne Hannigan**
Vote: 5-0-0

The Vice Chair signed the application and the members thanked them all for attending the meeting.

Wetland Permit – 81 Exeter Road: Eric Dewitt, owner of 81 Exeter Road, Tap Map U3, Lot 137, B1 Zone, is seeking a 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. The Vice Chair asked for information on the surface material to be used and Mr. Dewitt promised to send it to him. **Cris Blackstone** asked to see other properties with similar materials as driveways. Mr. Dewitt is seeking a letter of approval from the CC to go with his site plan review for the Planning Board. Several members would like to see the engineering report on the storm water flow. He will come back to our next meeting and provide the engineering reports by email to the members. The CC members thanked him for attending the meeting.

The meeting returned to the agenda.

4. **Approval of Minute**

Approval of Minutes of April 12, 2018 have been postponed until the next meeting.

5. **Treasurer's Report**

Andrea Sellers reported that the check was cleared for First Student Inc. (the bus company) for the school trip to the Boston Aquarium. Current use fees of \$5,500 were deposited on April 14, 2018 for the property located at 342 Wadleigh Falls Road. Total balance in the account stands now at \$299,641.12. Payment for Infinite Imaging is regrettably delayed as it needs the Vice Chair's signature and the Treasurer's signature is not sufficient even if approved by vote at a meeting. The Vice Chair will check on this tomorrow morning and sign the form for the financial office. We sincerely apologize to Infinite Imaging for this delay in payment.

6. **Committee and Subcommittee Reports**

Town Council: **Casey Finch** reported that the TC just completed the first reading of Resolution #2017/18-46

Authorizing the Town Administrator to Enter into an Agreement with GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc. for Final Design and Engineering Services Related to the Rehabilitation of the Macallen Dam in title only.

Planning Board: Sarah Finch reported that there was a public hearing for an application by Brandt Development Co. of NH, LLC for a subdivision at 10-20 Spring Street, Tax Map U2, Lot 71, M2 Zone. The proposal is to convert the six existing apartment units into condominiums. The applicant requested a continuance to the next meeting. The PB also approved a motion to grant the waiver of impact fees for the accessory apartment at 14 Woods Drive, Tax Map U1, Lot 1-50, in the R2 Zone, based on the findings of fact that the area being converted to the accessory apartment was the existing living area prior to the conversion and that the bedroom count of the home has not been increased.

7. Chairman's Report

Serve with Liberty: Vice Chair Patrick Reynolds thanked the Liberty Mutual volunteers for all of their hard work!! He also thanked Marianne Hannagan, Drew Kiefaber, Jeff Goldknopf for their help! Jeff helped identify the invasive species as they were removed and placed in the many new giant piles to be burned! Wiggins looks great! The newly updated management plan suggested that we need to clear the area beyond the stone wall. The Vice Chair will follow up with Ellen Snyder (who wrote our plan) to see if she has suggestions for contractors to do that work as it will require heavy equipment and the proper disposal of the large quantity of invasive species.

Fishing Derby Payment: The Vice Chair has received a formal request from Richard Heidt for the 29th Annual Fishing Derby to be held on Saturday June 16 from 7:00 am – 10:30 am at Amanda DeBlauw's Pond on Langs Lane. The request is for \$1,500 from the CC to help purchase the fish.

Action

Motion: Andrea Sellers moved that the CC expend funds of \$1,500 to assist in the purchase of fish for the 29th Annual Fishing Derby in Newmarket on June 16, 2018.

Second: Ann LaFortune

Vote: 5-0-0

8. Old/New Business (cont)

Newmarket Community Church- Schanda Park Use Permits: Pastor Patty may attend our next meeting to discuss the Church's requests for use of the Park.

Piscassic River/Loiselle Property Kiosk: The kiosk is complete and looks wonderful! Thanks to Julia Sinclair and all those who helped get this project done!

Schanda Park Repairs/Maintenance: Toni Weinstein, Patrick Reynolds, and Drew Kiefaber met to discuss the Newmarket Cares Day to see if there were any projects that could be done by the volunteers. Newmarket Cares Day information was posted at the school website: *"You are hereby invited to make a difference in your community on May 11, beginning at 11:30 and ending at 5 with a community celebration. May 11th is Newmarket Cares Day. On May 11th, members from our community, students, and staff will join together to do service for our town. Jobs will include both inside cleanup and outside clean up throughout the town including the Beanie Howcroft Field, our own school gardens, walking trails, the sunrise sunset center, the skate park, and helping community members who need our help. If you know someone in our community that could use our help on May 11th please see Mrs. Al-Darraj in room 113. You can sign up to volunteer at www.volunteersignup.org/DHHPE."* Buildings and Grounds indicated that they would be happy to have volunteers spread mulch at Schanda Park. Toni will follow up with them.

Dearborn Property: Drew Kiefaber has contacted Scott Boudreau, but has not heard back as yet. Drew will contact him again.

Heron Point Sanctuary –Ongoing: The next step is to determine the specifications for what we need the gate to do and get some quotes. The contact person would be Rick Malasky (Fire Chief and DPW).

Cris Blackstone has information from her contacts at LRAC that both the Dover and Somersworth have done significant research because of Willand Pond. **Drew Kiefaber** will share the contact person at the Cooperative to discuss the possibility of the opening the gate for about three weeks for the striped bass fishermen. **Casey Finch** as agreed to head up this project for the Commission. Thank you so much Casey!

Schoppmeyer Park – Representative: The Vice Chair will email Richie Shelton to ask that future meeting notices be sent directly to him. He will then see if either **Marianne Hannagan** or **Andrea Sellers** (both volunteers) might attend to represent the CC.

Advice and Guidance on Rising Coastal Waters: **Cris Blackstone** asked Suzanne Petersen at the LRAC about where we might get some advice and guidance on rising coastal waters particularly where parks located on the water might be affected like Schanda. The Coastal Adaptation Workshop (CAW) at

<http://www.nhcaw.org/> is the best place. They have a very big workshop coming up on June 20

(<http://www.nhcaw.org/save-the-date-nh-coastal-climate-summit/>). Many CC members already receive regular emails from this group because they have attended a CC meeting in the past. Their mission is to:

“assist communities in New Hampshire’s coastal watershed to prepare for the impacts of extreme weather and long term climate change by providing resources, facilitation, and guidance that enhance readiness and resilience.”

Turtle Signs: **Andrea Sellers** reported that the signs are up! Thank you DPW!

Conservation Commission Scholarship: **Andrea Sellers** picked up the applications and a decision will be made after the meeting tonight. Awards night is May 14 and **Drew Kiefaber** will present the \$1,000 award.

Election of Officers for 2018 – Chair, Vice Chair, and Treasurer:

Action

Motion: **Andrea Sellers** nominated **Ann LaFortune** as Treasurer
Second: **Cris Blackstone**
Vote: 5-0-0

Action

Motion: **Andrea Sellers** nominated **Marianne Hannagan** as Vice Chair
Second: **Ann LaFortune**
Vote: 5-0-0

Action

Motion: **Andrea Sellers** nominated **Patrick Reynolds** as Chair
Second: **Ann LaFortune**
Vote: 5-0-0

Misc. Mail Received:

Great Bay Matters: The Spring 2018 issue is not posted online as yet, but it will be available shortly at this site: https://www.greatbay.org/about/greatbaymatters_publications.htm

Newmarket Historical Society Events: <http://newmarketnhhistoricalsociety.org/events/>

SELT Newsletter: <http://seltnh.org/newsletter/>

LOCO Sports LLC: The CC received a thank you letter from LOCO Sports for the use of Schanda Park for the 12th Annual Great Bay Half Marathon & The Center for Orthopedics & Movement 5k. They enclosed a donation of \$250 for the Conservation Commission. We appreciate their kind donation. The Chair will make the deposit tomorrow when he takes care of other business with the financial office.

9. **Adjournment**

Action

Motion **Marianne Hannagan** moved that the meeting be adjourned.
Second: **Ann LaFortune**
Vote: 5-0-0

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.
The next meeting will be held on Thursday, June 14, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Frick, Recording Secretary