

TOWN OF NEWMARKET, NH  
**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
 September 13, 2018

7:00 PM Council Chambers

Members Present: Patrick Reynolds (Chair), Marianne Hannagan (Vice Chair), Cris Blackstone, Sam Kenney, Drew Kiefaber (Alternate), and Sarah Finch (Planning Board Rep).

Member Absent: Casey Finch (Town Council Rep - Ex-Officio), Ann LaFortune (Treasurer) and Andrea Sellers

Called to Order: 7:00 PM

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**

2. **Roll Call**

Welcome new member, **Sam Kenney**! His appointment was recently approved by the Town Council to serve until 2021. He comes to the Conservation Commission with a background in civil/environmental engineering and we welcome his expertise! Thank you for volunteering!

3. **Public Comments**

**NHDES Minor Impact Wetlands Application for 133 New Road:** Robert Stowell, President of Trittech Engineering Corporation, is representing Labonte Investments Realty LLC (property owner Eric Labonte) this evening to discuss the NHDES minor wetland application (submitted August 15, 2018) with all supporting documentation and seek CC comments. The application to NHDES is to install a concrete pad for a solar array and underground electrical work in the tidal buffer zone to supply power to the existing residential structure. The house is outside the tidal buffer zone and was completed two years ago. The house is to be completely reliant on solar energy with a generator which may run one hour per month. There will be no wetlands impact. The solar array (from Maine Solar <http://www.mainesolar.com/>) will not be visible from the Bay or Winkley Creek. The perimeter of this area is surrounded by trees and will encourage privacy. The concrete pad will be 6" deep and cover 400 sq. ft. The solar panels will be placed three feet off the ground and stand 12 ft. tall. The permit is under standard review and allows the CC to comment, if they wish, within the 40 day comment period. The Committee thanked Mr. Stowell and Mr. Labonte for attending the meeting this evening.

4. **Approval of Minutes**

August 14, 2018

**Action**

**Motion:** Patrick Reynolds moved that the minutes of August 14, 2018

**Second:** Cris Blackstone

**Vote:** Approved 3-0-2 (Sam Kenney and Marianne Hannagan abstained)

5. **Treasurer's Report**

The Town finance office continues to perform a computer software update, so no report was available for this meeting.

## 6. Committee and Subcommittee Reports

**Town Council:** **Casey Finch** was not present, but he sent an email to the Chair regarding an update on the gate progress at Heron Point. Greg Marles, Facilities Director, said that the contractor was on site recently to begin measurements and the electrical meter should be installed shortly.

**Planning Board:** **Sarah Finch** reported that the Planning Board held a preliminary conceptual consultation with Hersey Lane LLC (non-binding on either the Town or the developer) for an approximately 12.8 acre parcel located at 77 Hersey Lane off of the Class VI road. They presented the idea of doing a conservation subdivision, which would allow them to condense the development so as to fit with the goals of the Master Plan as well as for this parcel. The property is located between two pieces of conservation land. Hersey Lane LLC is considering single family homes or duplexes.

**Schanda Park Sub-Committee:** **Patrick Reynolds** discussed the pending organization of a sub-committee discussed at the August 16, 2018 meeting: *"The Chair would like to suggest a sub-committee to address both Schanda and Schoppmeyer Parks. Membership may include people from the Town Administration, LRAC, CC, and members of the public. The topics would include discussions of the soil erosion issues at Schanda and the new goals from the TC about the downtown walking plan with regards to the Shoreline Protection Act."*

**Casey Finch** has agreed to take this idea to the TC and report back to the members.

## 7. Chairman's Report

**Annual Meeting of NH Association of Conservation Commissions:** The Chair mentioned that he planned to attend the meeting this year. <http://www.nhacc.org/annualmeeting47/> **Cris Blackstone** and **Marianne Hannagan** also would like to attend. The CC will reimburse the registration fees for members attending. The meeting this year will be held on Saturday, November 3 at Pembroke Academy and feature Professor Richard B. Primack, Department of Biology, Boston University speaking on "The Effect of Climate Change on the Plants and Animals of Thoreau's Woods".

## 8. Old/New Business

**Dearborn Property – Survey:** **Drew Kiefaber** will call Scott Boudreau to get the survey going as quickly as possible.

**Heron Point Sanctuary –New Signage:** A replacement sign has been proposed for the Heron Point Sanctuary at/near the new gate entrance. Mike Hoffman has helped again by getting an estimate of \$395.00 from the same company that made the sign by the entrance on Bay Road.

### Action

**Motion:** **Drew Kiefaber** moved that the Conservation Commission expend funds not to exceed \$450.00 for a new sign at Heron Point Sanctuary.

**Second:** **Cris Blackstone**

**Vote:** 5-0-0

**Schoppmeyer Park – Management Plan:** The abutter to the north has brought his concern to the Schoppmeyer Park Committee about park users confusing his driveway for the park entrance. Several solutions to the problem were discussed and the abutter and the Committee agreed to put up a fence of some kind. The SPC is also working on the management plan. A lighted flag pole is also being considered.

**Schanda Park Permit:** The formal permit from the Newmarket Community Church has been received for our records for the previously approved request for the 'Community Lobster Bake' on 9/16/18.

**Fall Monitoring:** **Drew Kiefaber** mentioned that it is time to consider scheduling the five properties that require annual monitoring. The Chair mentioned that it is also time to monitor the Rosa Gravel Pit (not done annually). The last report was done in 2015 in accordance with Town oversight. The property is currently for sale. The Chair will follow up with Diane Hardy to see when this monitoring might be scheduled. The visit will occur during weekday work hours for the convenience of Town staff.

9. ***Adjourn***

**Action**

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 PM.  
The next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 11, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Frick, Recording Secretary