



Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes January 10, 2017

Attendees: Scott Pim, Todd Hathaway, Sarah Brennan, Liz Wilson, John Bennett

Absent: Sandy Goodspeed, Gordon Merrick

Guest: See below.

Meeting Called to Order: 7:05

Shirkin Road Industrial Sub-Division Wetlands Buffer Impacts

Joseph Coronati of Jones and Beach Engineers, Inc. presented on behalf of owner. This is a proposed commercial sub-division at a previously disturbed site with an old gravel pit and logging. After the project was designed, it was determined that the wetland on the property was bigger than anticipated (just over 10,000 sq.ft.) which required a fifty foot wetlands buffer zone, instead of twenty-five feet. The expanded buffer zone created an approximately thirty-five hundred foot buffer impact, about three hundred feet of which would be asphalt road within the buffer based on the existing design. Owner proposed enhancing the buffer with plantings and curbing the asphalt to reduce run-off, instead of redesigning the project to eliminate the buffer impact. Mr. Coronati acknowledged that it would be possible, but costly and time consuming, to eliminate the buffer impact by redesigning the project so that the road avoided the buffer. Concern was expressed by Members about the ability to enforce conditions such as enhanced buffers, and the fact that a redesign was technically feasible. The Members voted unanimously to not approve the requested impact.

Dan Billodeau Diamond Hill

Mr. Billodeau presented a dredge and fill permit regarding a need for a small wetland crossing for the home he is building on the five acre buildable lot at Diamond Hill. This small wetland crossing is the only available access to the property. Mr. Billodeau is not the original owner who created the need for the wetland crossing to the buildable lot. Mr. Billodeau expressed a willingness to work with the Commission in the future as a potential steward/trails committee volunteer regarding Diamond Hill. The dredge and fill permit was approved and Scott Pim provided signatures.

Minutes

All Members present unanimously approved the meeting minutes from November 1, 2016 and December 13, 2016.

Mary Blair Park Sign

Members could not recall approving or agreeing to contribute to payment for the proposed Mary Blair Park sign. Assuming no financial contribution was being requested, the Members



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agreed to unanimously approve the proposed design submitted by the Recreation Department.

Trail Finder Update

Sarah continues to work on Trail Finder viability for ECC properties. She also established a new Conservation Commission e-mail address, EppingOutdoors@gmail.com. This will be added to the web-site.

Web-site and Logo Update

Nothing new to add at this time other than meeting minutes and new e-mail address.

Board Positions

Sarah agreed to take on the Treasurer position. Todd will act as temporary Secretary pending further communication with Gordon. If Gordon is not able to continue, either Todd or John will assume the duties.

Next Meeting

Next meeting is scheduled for February 14, 2017. Prior to the meeting there will be an NRI work meeting with Amanda Stone, which will not be televised.


Adjourned: 8:10

Respectfully Submitted,
Todd Hathaway

Minutes Approved:




Scott Pim, *Chair* Date 2/14/17



Todd Hathaway Date 2.14.17

John Bennett Date



Sarah Brennan Date 2/14/17

