



Meeting Minutes January 14th, 2020

Present: Sandy Goodspeed, John Gabour, Scott Pim, Ben Bade, Dan McCombs, Joe Trombley (Selectmen's Representative)

Absent: Todd Hathaway, Liz Wilson,

Call to Order: 7:04 p.m.

Pollinator Pathways

Vicki Brown, Marghi Bean (founder) and Evy Nathan (Chair), presented efforts on promoting pollinators in Rockingham County.. First category is bees, second is butterflies, third is moths, fourth is wasps, fifth is flies, beetles including fireflies and goldenrod soldier beetles, and seventh is birds. Pollinators are responsible for 1 of 5 foods that humans eat, 80% of all plants. The group initiative encourages restoring habitats is spreading around Kingston to Amesbury, MA. Seven conservation commissions are signed up already. Flying insects declined by 75% over the past few years that is a concern around the world. They asked the commission to join the group, educate our community, and collaborate on programs/resources. Commissions can come up with own events or promote events in and around the county. The idea is to connect house by house with do it yourself maintenance and landscape changes to build a network of connected pathways. They proposed one of the ECC members become a liaison to the group and provide to facilitate the exchange of information. 263 people in Kingston have signed up to participate within that community. Group is willing to help promote at community events. Scott volunteered to be the liaison until someone else can be identified. Sandy will reach out to the community. The commission agreed to join the coalition. Sandy will include something in the SUE article for February.

New Water Treatment Plant

Jim Pouliot, Water and Sewer Superintendent, said the Water and Sewer Department is seeking a conditional use permit for a new water treatment plant at Epping Crossing. This impacts a 50ft buffer at the SW corner of the proposed building. Scott asked to slide building to N NE, existing buildings need to be continuously operated and building could not be moved. No additional mitigation option is available at this time. Scott moved to accept the buffer impact due to no good alternatives; all members vote to approve.

Main street permit

Joe Coronati (Jones and Beach) and Mike Fecteau (buyer of property). 260 Main St, large wetland to the west of the property, applying for a conditional use permit for buffer impact. 700 sq ft of buffer impact for house, 3k sq ft of temporary impact, but will be landscaping. Because



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of tall pines, would like to clear trees, including stumps due to fall hazard. Impact to site is small in comparison to the size of the lot. House will connect to the sewer system, but not to the main water supply – no new water/sewer connections are approved until capacity is increased with the new water treatment plant. There will be no septic, but there will be a well. House is positioned as far as possible to the corner of the lot to minimize impact. Commission suggested rotating the building around to minimize the impact even further. Removing fireplace bump and rotating building to move building north, could reduce impact to 25ft instead of 50ft. Commission requested a revised layout of the plan for presentation at the next meeting. Commission also requested a tree cutting area restriction to minimize landscape impact.

150 Pleasant St Dredge & Fill

Brendan Walden (Gove environmental Group) and Joe Coronati (Jones and Beach) presented a proposal is to construct 163 duplex units, 3,750 sq ft of impact including documentation of vernal pools. They requested approval for direct wetland impact of 750 sq ft. Lot 39 was logged two years ago. This property came before the commission presented in June, 2019, regarding the width of roads. This is a standard state wetlands approval package, the commission does not need to approve but can comment. For the size of the project, the amount of wetland impact has been optimized and the members were pleased with the layout. The main concern is marking the location of the boundaries if not physically defined. Construction is being overseen by the town engineer to ensure layout is kept to a plan. Any change to an approved plan is an amendment and would need to be re-approved by the planning board.

Approve and sign minutes

All present members unanimously approved the minutes for November. Hard copy is not present for December so deferred to next month.

Financial report

Escrow - \$3,540.62

Budget - \$626.55

LUCT - \$51,684.54

Ben volunteered to investigate uses for LUCT account. Will reach out to NHACC and read the RSA for more information.

Hall Easement Signs

Ben submitted sign artwork and quote to Lisa and cc'd the members. Lisa has confirmed that check is in process at which time Ben will purchase the signs.



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A local resident sent the members a concern about muddy sections on Diamond Hill road caused by off road vehicles. This road is owned by the town and local enforcement is unlikely. Ben will add verbiage to signs to include restriction of motorized vehicles. Members approved the motion to add verbiage.

Fox Run

Sandy presented Fox Run sign design, space exists on the sign to add content about the alphabet trail and info from trailfinder.info. Members agreed to keep the sign as authored. Sandy asked Kevin Martin about creating new letters for the trail and Preston has agreed to help install them. Ben volunteered to lead the fabrication and installation of the signs; Sandy will let Kevin and Preston know the Commission appreciates their willingness to help, but one of their members volunteered to take on the task.

Miriam Jackson Park

Sandy suggested putting up a sign describing the life and achievements of Mariam Jackson; tabled till next meeting. Scott suggested using a vertical kiosk instead of an angled one for longevity.

Program Updates

Liz was not present, so program updates were tabled for now.

Web Update

Dan investigated adding a town email address and could set up a process to forward those messages to the gmail account. Members agreed to leave the email as it is and not go with the town address. Dan worked with Sandy to gather information and copy it to the groups google drive to organize all the files. Sandy will clean up old files in the drive that are no longer relevant. The members are free to review all documents and suggest reorganization improvements.

The members expressed concerns about the amount of paper that is produced to present to the meetings, if there is a way for presenters to submit electronically and Sandy will instruct presenters to only bring the minimal amount of paper document at the meetings. Is it possible to tie into the planning boards system for electronic submissions and link in the agenda?



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Monitoring

Providence church monitoring, suggestion to acquire a monitoring kit which would include a tool belt, hammer, nails, badges all donated. Sandy requested buying a compass to follow a survey plan rather than a GPS which requires coordinates. Members approved spending \$135.58.

2020 Budget

Sandy presented a budget for potential 2020 projects including Low Park, Providence easement. Members discussed whether or not the LUCT can be used for certain projects around town. Ben took the action to the policies governing the uses of LUCT funds and will communicate it to the group at the next meeting.

Bio Blitz

Deferred to next meeting

Permit Criteria

Ben asked the question of the Committee's policies for dispositioning permits. The buffers are guidelines but are nearly impossible to map out as accurately on site. Members discussed how to gather information to solidify a standard procedure. From Scott's experience with other commissions, the Epping's buffers are generally more conservative than other towns. Members discussed how to enforce residential and commercial wetland impacts. This will be included in next month's agenda to continue the discussion. The members also discussed ways to publish the rules once revised, within zoning regulations or other.

Adjourn: 9:47 p.m.

Next Meeting: February 11th, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

John Gabour, Acting Secretary



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Scott Pim 2/11/2020
Scott Pim, Chair Date

Todd Hathaway Date

John Gabour 2/11/2020
John Gabour Date

Dan McCombs 2020-2-11
Dan McCombs Date

Sandy Goodspeed 2.11.20
Sandy Goodspeed Date

Liz Wilson Date

Ben Bade Date