



CITY OF DOVER

DOVER CONSERVATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: Second Floor Conference Room – 288 Central Ave., Dover, NH
Meeting Date: Monday, August 9, 2021
Meeting Time: 5:30 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Hunt (Chair), Steve Fellows (Vice Chair), Amy Kramer-Perry, Abigail Lyon, Richard Erickson, Kristen Murphy (Alternate), Bruce Batchelder (Alternate)

Absent (Excused): Robert Atwood (Secretary), Jason Aube

Absent (Un-excused):

STAFF PRESENT: Steve Bird

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve Riker, John Donais

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was convened at 5:30 PM.

Hunt opened the meeting and did roll call.

2. CITIZEN'S FORUM:

John Donais: I live at 16 Durham Road and I am concerned with Dover's water supply due to continued building and development. Sea level rise will impact the Bellamy River aquifer. We need to stop building until we understand the impacts on the aquifer. We need a moratorium on apartments and large development. Very concerned with the proposed zoning amendments #15 and 16 that replace wetlands with unsuitable area. He reviewed other concerns related to growth, development in his area, climate change impacts and water resources.

Members discussed the zoning amendments and the intent of the changes. Bird agreed to send the members the list of amendments.

3. APPROVAL OF THE PRIOR MEETING MINUTES – July 12, 2021

Fellows moved to approve the July 12, 2021 minutes, Erickson seconded. Vote: 5 yes, Lyon and Hunt abstained

4. OLD BUSINESS: NONE

5. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. NHDES Standard Wetlands Permit for the Strachan Family Revocable Trust, (Agent: Steve Riker, Ambit Engineering, Inc.), Assessor's Map L, Lot 29, zoned R-20, located at 125 Spur Road.

Steve Riker was present to explain the proposal to construct a new dock with a 6' x 40' accessway, a 6' x 30' fixed wood pier, a 3' x 30' gangway, and a 10' x 20' float, in the tidal Bellamy River. The project creates 470 square feet of permanent impact to tidal wetland and 240 square feet of permanent impact to the tidal buffer zone. This is the least impacting alternative over the salt marsh. Dock to be secured by helical moorings. To be used for kayak access. Will include floats stops.

Hunt: What is the number of pilings in the salt marsh and how will it be installed?

Riker: There will be four pilings in the salt marsh that are unavoidable due to maximum span. All work will be done by barge, with piles driven at low tide and barge brought in a high tide.

Fellows: Why are you not using batter piles?

Riker: This dock is not near the channel so not expecting large ice chunks.

Lyon moved to endorse the NHDES Wetlands applications as presented, Fellows seconded. Vote: 7 yes



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6. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

- A. Review of Correspondence Received From NH Department of Environmental Services: None
- B. Review of 7/19/21 Letter From the NH Department of Transportation re: road resurfacing project environmental impacts
- Hunt reviewed a letter from NHDOT about their statewide road resurfacing project work coming up and the chance to comment on environmental impacts.

7. OTHER BUSINESS:

- A. Update on Committee to Work on Amendments to Wetland Protection District Ordinance

Bird: The City and the SRPC has received a PREP grant to hire SRPC and a wetlands scientist to assist in reviewing the ordinance. The committee held a meeting on July 19th.

Lyon: The committee discussed the functions and values of wetlands and findings of facts.

- B. Lyon asked to discuss the Technical Review Committee process and the role of the Conservation Commission.

Lyon: This idea came out of previous applications and our discussions about TRC issues. I think we need to play a bigger role early on in the process. One option is to request that TRC minutes be provided to the Conservation Commission for projects headed to us. Second option is to have one or two members serve on the TRC by seeing the plans ahead of time and submitting comments and questions to the Planning Department to be added to the list from each department that are provided to the developer at the TRC meeting.

Bird: The regulations include the Chair as a member of TRC but traditionally the Chair has not participated so notice of the TRC meetings stopped. One option is to have a Conservation Commission member also serve as an alternate on the Planning Board. This has been done before.

Lyon will write up a summary of her proposal for consideration at the meeting next month.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Fellows moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:41 PM, Erickson seconded. Vote: 7 yes