



CITY OF DOVER

DOVER CONSERVATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: Council Conference Room - 288 Central Avenue Dover NH
Meeting Date: Monday, January 9, 2012
Meeting Time: 5:30 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Hunt (Chair), Lauren Jacoby, Cora Quisumbing-King, Debra Calabro, Ron Hebert

STAFF PRESENT: Steve Bird (City Planner); Dave White (City Engineer); Chris Parker (Planning Director); Tim Corwin (Assistant Planner)

OTHERS PRESENT: Kevin McEneaney, Carl Demare

The meeting was convened by Chair Hunt at 5:30 PM.

Hunt recognized Chris Parker, who asked for a couple minutes of the Commission's time. He thanked members for their service and continued efforts. Parker introduced Tim Corwin, the new Assistant City Planner, who started last week. He will be doing code enforcement and may occasionally fill in for Bird.

1. ANNUAL NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2012

Hunt explained that the floor was open for nominations for officers. Hunt said that Marcia Gasses has indicated that she would serve again as Vice Chair if no one else wants to. Calabro said that while she did not have many duties, she would be willing to serve.

Jacoby nominated Calabro to serve as Secretary, Quisumbing-King seconded. Hunt asked for additional nominations, but there were none. Vote: Unanimous

Hebert nominated Gasses to serve as Vice Chair, Quisumbing-King seconded. Hunt asked for additional nominations, but there were none. Vote: Unanimous

Calabro nominated Hunt to serve as Chair, Hebert seconded. Hunt asked for additional nominations, but there were none. Vote: Unanimous

2. APPROVAL OF THE PRIOR MINUTES

Quisumbing-King moved to approve the December 12, 2011 minutes as presented, Jacoby seconded. Vote: Unanimous

3. OLD BUSINESS

- A. City of Dover Conditional Use Permit for Michael and Shelby Brewer (Agent: McEneaney Survey Associates) Assessor's Map 32, Lots 36-D & 36-E, zoned R-12, located on Fourth Street. Proposal is to place a single family dwelling and driveway within the 50-foot wetlands buffer. Total buffer impact is between 4,478 and 7,423 square feet. **Tabled on December 12, 2011.**

Hunt asked for a motion to remove this item from the table. *Quisumbing-King moved to remove the item from the table, Calabro seconded. Vote: Unanimous*

Kevin McEneaney was present to explain the proposal to place a single family dwelling and driveway within the 50-foot wetlands buffer. Total buffer impact is between 4,478 and 7,423 square feet depending on the amount of fill and slope required. The plan has been revised to reduce the buffer impacts since



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the previous meeting. He had prepared two plans, one showing the one house relocated to reduce the buffer impacts and one to show how two houses could be located if the two lots were to remain and not be merged. The second is for comparison purposes only. The house has been relocated 20 feet from the river. The square footage of impact was calculated assuming an average fill extending six feet from the house at a 3 to 1 slope. One benefit will be the removal of an extensive amount of invasive species. They will also clean up all the debris that has been deposited on the property by flood waters.

He feels it should qualify as a lot of record and should not need a Conditional Use Permit, but the Planning Director did not agree. The lots are going to be combined. He was not able to do the topography due to the heavy vegetation, including invasive species. The lot is in the floodplain and the house will need to be built up by two feet. There will be no basement in the house.

Hebert asked about the slope from the slab.

McEneaney: It will be a 3 to 1 slope that will average six feet from the building.

Hunt: The driveway is very close to the wetlands. Will erosion control measures be installed?

McEneaney: There will be silt fencing installed around the perimeter of the site to control the sediment runoff.

Calabro motioned to endorse the application, Jacoby seconded. Vote: four in favor, one opposed (Hebert). Motion passes.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- A. NH Department of Environmental Services Dredge and Fill Permit for the City of Dover located along Tolend Road and Watson Road. Proposal is to rehabilitate 3.7 miles of Tolend Road and Watson Road with associated drainage and slope improvements. The total impact to roadside ditch line wetlands is 37,070 square feet.

Jacoby stated that she lives on Tolend Road so she will step down for this application.

Dave White, Dover City Engineer, was present to explain the proposal. The wetland impacts will require mitigation, which is proposed to be placing a conservation easement and deed restriction on a city owned parcel on Glen Hill Road.

Quisumbing-King asked about the orange or red flagging that she saw along the road.

White said that the wetlands have been flagged but those would be pink and black.

Hebert asked about the width of the road.

White: The road will be widened to 28 feet and it is 24 or 26 feet now in places.

Hunt: Who is the easement going to be granted to?

White: We talked to the Strafford Rivers Conservancy about taking the easement but they did not want it due to the history of the use of the property. The City will place a deed restriction on the property.

Calabro: Will any of the work impact the Tolend Road Landfill?



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White: No the work is only along the roadway and the landfill cleanup involves removing the contaminants from the groundwater.

Hebert motioned to endorse the application, Calabro seconded. Vote: Unanimous

Jacoby rejoined the Commission.

5. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

A. Letter Dated 11/30/11 from Newington Board of Selectmen Regarding Nitrogen in Great Bay

Hunt explained that we had received another letter from Newington regarding nitrogen in Great Bay and said that no action was necessary. Other towns will have to make similar decisions. Dover put a flyer in the last water bill.

B. Discussion of House Bill 1512-FN - An act relative to the authority of conservation commissions

Bird explained that there are at least three bills that impact conservation commissions that have been filed in the state legislature that we should follow. HB 1512 was recently withdrawn by the sponsor, but there are two more bills – HB 1515 and HB 1545, that should be monitored. He summarized the content of the bills. These bills will be heard by the Municipal and County Government committee and Dover has Dot Hooper a state representative on the committee.

Calabro: We should take a position against these bills.

There was a discussion about how to communicate the concerns to the state legislature.

Hunt: I would be willing to contact Representative Hooper to let her know of the Commission's opposition to the two remaining bills.

Jacoby motioned to have the Conservation Commission oppose HB 1515 and HB 1545 and have the Chair contact Representative Hooper to let her know that the bills are not in the best interests of land conservation, Quisumbing-King seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

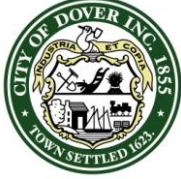
Hunt asked Bird if he had any information on the appointment of new members.

Bird: At the December meeting the Appointment Committee and City Council appointed Ron Hebert as a full member and appointed a new person, Kevin Perron, as a new member. He has not heard if Perron has been notified or sworn in.

Hunt asked Bird to contact the City Clerk to determine the status of the new member.

Hebert stepped down on the next agenda item.

A. Update on Morrison Lane Conservation Easement Monitoring



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Bird explained that he had spoke with Don Keirstead of the Natural Resources Conservation Service and he offered to assist in the preparation a management plan. Bird will arrange a meeting with him and the Board of Directors to see if he can help them.

Bird distributed copies of the Conservation Commission handbook. Each copy is numbered and Bird will keep track of who has which book.

Quisumbing-King brought in her copy of the conference material on “Forging the Link” and asked Bird to keep the material in his office for members to review.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Quisumbing-King motioned to adjourn at 6:35 PM. Hebert seconded. Vote: Unanimous