



CITY OF DOVER

DOVER CONSERVATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting and Joint Meeting with Open Lands Committee
Meeting Location: First Floor Conference Room - 288 Central Avenue Dover NH
Meeting Date: Tuesday, November 13, 2012
Meeting Time: 5:30 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Hunt (Chair), Lauren Jacoby, Ron Hebert, Cora Quisumbing-King, Kevin Perron, Kris Houle (Alternate)

STAFF PRESENT: Steve Bird (City Planner)

OTHERS PRESENT: Doug Larosa, David Paolini, Anna Boudreau, Mike Davis

The meeting was convened by Chair Hunt at 6:00 PM, who apologized for being late.

1. APPROVAL OF THE PRIOR MINUTES

Quisumbing-King moved to approve the October 15, 2012 minutes, Jacoby seconded. Vote: Unanimous

2. OLD BUSINESS- NONE

3. NEW BUSINESS

- A. City of Dover Conditional Use Permit for International Car LTD, Owner: M & P Jespersen Realty, LLC (Agent: Trittech Engineering Corporation), Assessor's Map K, Lot 40-C, zoned B-3, located at 125 Stark Avenue. Proposed work involves the stabilization of a 20% slope with rock treatment, geotextile fabric and underdrain. Total disturbance of steep slopes in the Conservation District equals 10,700 square feet.

Doug Larosa of Trittech Engineering was present to give the Commission a presentation on the steep slope impacts associated with the project. The steep slopes are manmade along the rear of a parking lot next to the turnpike. The parking lot was built in the 1960's. There are lots of invasive species. The existing vegetation will be removed, geotextile fabric will be placed to stabilize the slope and rip rap will be placed with larger stones on the bottom.

Houle: How steep is the slope?

Larosa: It runs from 20% to 45% slope.

Hebert: Will all the vegetation be removed?

Larosa: Yes, there are no trees worth saving.

Hunt: Will NHDOT be involved in the project?

Larosa: No, all work will be on our property.

Houle: Is parking lot being changed at all?

Larosa: No, most of the water goes in the other direction now.

Hebert moved to endorse the Conditional Use Permit as requested, Quisumbing-King seconded. Vote: Unanimous

- B. Request for Timber Harvest on Conservation Easement Lots – David Paolini, 195 Long Hill Road, Assessor's Map A, Lots 18M & 37. Conservation easement (55.17 acres) obtained on 2/15/12 and held by City of Dover Conservation Commission.

Anna Boudreau of the Open land Committee and Dave Paolini was present to explain the proposed timber harvest plan for the property. Boudreau provide some history of the property and the



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easement. The forestry management plan was prepared by Robert Graves, a licensed forester. Additionally a detailed plan for the harvest was prepared in a letter dated November 6, 2012, which calls for clearing a 6-acre area, thinning of the remaining areas and enhancing the trail system. The owner is also thinking of building a barn for animals. A six acre section in areas A and B are proposed to be cleared to create pasture for raising animals.

Quisumbing-King: What animals are planned?

Paolini: I am thinking about highland cattle or alpacas.

Hunt: Were areas A and B formerly pasture?

Paolini: The former owner had trails and flowers throughout the area.

Jacoby: Are all the proposed items in the letter allowed by the deed?

Boudreau: Yes they are consistent with the deed.

Houle: What is the schedule?

Paolini: The 6-acre area would be done before next fall.

Bird: What is the volume of wood that is planned to be removed?

Paolini: I am not sure how many cords will be removed, but I will have to file an intent to cut permit.

Boudreau: We would ask for approval of the overall forest management plan and of the specific timber harvest plan.

Hunt: Lets do two separate motions.

Perron: I need to excuse myself and step down due to a conflict of interest.

Jacoby moved to approve the forest management plan prepared by Robert Graves, Houle seconded. Vote: Four in favor, one opposed (Hebert).

Quisumbing-King moved to approve the timber harvest plan as detailed in the letter of November 6, 2012 prepared by Robert Graves, Jacoby seconded. Vote: Four in favor, one opposed (Hebert).

4. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR: None

5. OTHER BUSINESS

Hunt: I would like to welcome our new member Kris Houle.

6. ADJOURNMENT

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



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JOINT MEETING WITH OPEN LANDS COMMITTEE

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Hunt (Chair), Lauren Jacoby, Ron Hebert, Cora Quisumbing-King, Kevin Perron, Kris Houle (Alternate)

OPEN LANDS COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Anna Boudreau (Chair), John Scruton, Malone Cloitre, Ann Reid, Anne Kotlus

STAFF PRESENT: Steve Bird (City Planner)

1. INTRODUCTIONS OF MEMBERS

Hunt welcomed the Open Lands Committee members to the joint meeting and members of both groups introduced themselves.

2. REVIEW OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CONSERVATION AND OPEN SPACE CHAPTER

Bird distributed copies of the four pages from the Conservation and Open Space chapter of the master plan that contain the recommendations that will be discussed tonight.

A. **Modify Acquisition Criteria – *Open Lands Committee***

Hunt reviewed the master plan recommendation.

Scruton: In 1979 zoning restricted agriculture in the city. We protect wetlands and watersheds but not agriculture. We need to take a hard look at the land we want to protect. Take a map and identify areas to preserve.

Boudreau described the criteria the OLC uses at present. The Community Trail was not in the criteria. Private land owners have to want to preserve their land.

Hunt: Zoning for farmland is a Planning Board issue.

Boudreau: The OLC will look at our criteria in the near future.

Hunt: The Community Trail is a very worthwhile use of funds.

Hunt reviewed the idea of setting a goal of protecting a specific acreage and pointed out that the master plan recommends no acreage goal.

B. **Improve protection of Bouchard and Hughes Wellheads**

Hunt: We toured the existing wellhead areas and some are vulnerable to pollution.

Hunt reviewed the recommendation in the master plan.

C. **Evaluate City-owned Tracts For Conservation Value and Permanent Protection – *Conservation Commission***

Bird: The Conservation Commission could look at a list of all City-owned parcels, generated by the Assessing Department, and determine which may be worthy of additional protection. A map could also be prepared.



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Cloitre: We need to develop criteria for protection and look at what other towns have done.

Jacoby: We could put this on our future agendas for discussion. Maybe form a sub-committee to work on the list.

D. Raise Public Awareness of Accessible Conservation Lands – *Conservation Commission*

Hunt reviewed the recommendation.

Boudreau: The OLC is working on a web page and Facebook page. We need to update our brochure.

Cloitre: We could put trails maps on the Dover Download.

Hunt: We have lots of good ideas but it is not easy to get things done as a group of volunteers.

A general discussion ensued on getting information on protected lands out to the public through various techniques.

E. Re-invigorate the Conservation Commission – *Conservation Commission*

Hunt: How to do this is the question. Maybe we should tackle this and the remaining agenda items at a future joint meeting due to the later hour.

F. Re-invigorate the Open Lands Committee – *Open Lands Committee*

3. DISCUSSION ON ESTABLISHING AN EASEMENT MONITORING TEAM

4. DISCUSSION ON OBTAINING PHOTO ID'S FOR MEMBERS

5. DISCUSSION OF ANY OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST TO MEMBERS

Hunt: The future joint meeting will be held on January, 10, 2013 at 5:30, which is the regular meeting date for the OLC.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Hebert motioned to adjourn at 7:40 PM. Houle seconded. Vote: Unanimous