



CITY OF DOVER

DOVER CONSERVATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: 2nd Floor Conference Room, City Hall, 288 Central Avenue
Meeting Date: Monday, November 9, 2015
Meeting Time: 5:30 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Hunt (Chair), Marcia Gasses (Vice Chair), Cora Quisumbing-King, Richard Erickson, Tristan Donovan

STAFF PRESENT: Steve Bird (City Planner), Gretchen Young (Assistant City Engineer)

OTHERS PRESENT: Anna Boudreau, Bob Hall

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

1. APPROVAL OF THE PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

Quisumbing-King moved to approve the October 13, 2015 minutes, Erickson seconded. Vote: 5-0.

2. OLD BUSINESS:

3. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Presentation on Conservation Easements and the Land Protection Process – Anna Boudreau, Open Lands Committee Chair

Boudreau explained that she would be reviewing the process that the OLC uses when it selects a property for protection and the basics of conservation easements. We talk about the process from “Inquiry” to “The Closing”. A conservation easement is different from putting land in current use. Discussed the bundle of rights that a landowner has. The Conservation Commission has the responsibility to monitor easements but that duty was turned over to the OLC. The responsibilities of the OLC were outlined, including monitoring and baseline documentation reports. Discussed the process of creating the criteria for land protection. The criteria are currently being updated. We meet with landowners to understand their objectives. The Conservation Fund is used to pay for transaction costs.

Quisumbing-King: How long does it take to complete a land donation?

Boudreau: It is much less, probably 6 to 12 months because you don't have to have an appraisal or apply for grants.

Boudreau: The Conservation Commission can be more involved in the land protection process if you want.

- B. NHDES Wetlands Permit and City of Dover Conditional Use Permit for the City of Dover (Agent: Theresa McAuliffe, The Louis Berger Group, Inc.), Whittier Street Bridge, located on Whittier Street.

Young was present to explain the proposal, which is to replace the entire bridge over the Cochecho River with a permanent wetland impact of 4,592 sq. ft. and a temporary wetland impact of 6,428 sq. ft. The bridge is on the NHDOT Red list and has weight limitations. There is an abutment in the middle of the river that will be removed with the new bridge. The new bridge will be a longer single span and will be wider. Construction will be done during a low flow period and a coffer dam will be used along with a turbidity fence.

Hunt: What is the anticipated start of construction?

Young: We hope to get permits by January, put the project out to bid with a start of construction in the spring or we may wait until school ends because the road will be closed.

Bird: Some of the wetland impact is on the Cassily parcel which is under a conservation easement to LCHIP.

Donovan confirmed that a hydraulic model was done by Louis Berger.



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Young: All the engineering on this project has been completed by Louis Berger.

Donovan: What the plans for the coffer dam?

Young: It will be done during low flow and done as quickly as possible to minimize the potential for high water events.

Gasses: There are not really many permanent impacts to wetlands.

Donovan confirmed that there is no wetlands mitigation required.

Gasses made a motion to endorse the CUP application and NHDES application as presented, Erickson seconded. Vote: 5-0.

4. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

A. Review of Correspondence Received From NH Department of Environmental Services

Bird reviewed the following letters from the DES Wetlands Bureau:

1. Approval of a permit from NHDES for dock for Justin Webber at 254A Dover Point Road.
2. Approval of a permit from NHDES for dock for the Landings on Dover Point at Landing Way.
3. Appeal of NHDES denial of dock permit from Miles Cook of 22 Isaac Lucas Circle.
4. Approval of a NHDES wetlands permit for Mark and Suzanne Jones on Arch Street.

B. Reminder About Planning Board Land Use Board Meet and Greet – November 10, 2015 at McConnell Center Cafeteria

Bird reminded members about the event.

5. OTHER BUSINESS:

Bird distributed information of the Community Trail clean-up day scheduled for Saturday, November 14th.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Quisumbing-King moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 pm, Erickson seconded. Vote: Unanimous