



CITY OF DOVER

DOVER CONSERVATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: **1st Floor Conference Room** - 288 Central Avenue, Dover, NH
Meeting Date: Monday, March 11, 2019
Meeting Time: 5:30 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Hunt (Chair), Steve Fellows (Vice Chair), Robert Atwood, Amy Kramer Perry, Abby Lyon, Richard Erickson, Jason Aube (Alternate), Zach Schmidt (Alternate)

STAFF PRESENT: Steve Bird (City Planner), Dave White (City Engineer)

OTHERS PRESENT: Chris Berry

1. The meeting was convened at 5:30 PM and a roll call was done.

2. APPROVAL OF THE PRIOR MEETING MINUTES – February 11, 2019

Fellows moved to approve the February 11, 2019 minutes, Lyon seconded. Vote: 6 in favor, Schmidt and Erickson abstained.

3. OLD BUSINESS:

4. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. NHDES Wetlands Permit and City of Dover Conditional Use Permit for the City of Dover, located along the length of Spur Road.

Hunt: Schmidt will sit on this application.

Dave White, City Engineer, was present to explain the project for road reconstruction and 14 culvert replacements along Spur Road with a temporary wetland impact of 16,450 square feet and a temporary tidal buffer zone impact of 73,145 square feet. There are 21 culverts on Spur Road and we are replacing 14. We will also be extending water and sewer lines.

Fellows: What are your plans for erosion control? The need for the work is obvious so minimizing impacts is key.

White: This is a unique linear project. We will use standard erosion and sediment control such as hay bales, silt fences and silt soxx.

Lions: Will the culverts be replaced in kind or upsized to handle increased rainfall?

White: Many of them are old box culverts from the railroad that will be replaced by modern culverts. Increasing culvert size is an issue because abutters have concerns about increasing onto their properties.

Aube: Will the culverts be able to handle a 50 year storm?

White: Yes they will. Some culverts cross the sewer main so we can't raise or lower the culverts. Some culvert outfalls are underwater at high tide. Some culverts will be shortened and plunge pools will be installed.

Hunt: Will the road be enlarged by this project?

White: The average width is 21 feet and we will be trying to have 22 feet. Some residents want 28 feet and a bike lane but there is not enough room given the restraints. There will be less traffic once the turnpike is finished.

Lyon: Would you consider sharrows for bikes?

White: Probably not since this a rural road.

Fellows: Would you consider signage for bikes?

White: Maybe but we would work with the Planning Department.

Lyon: When does the project start?

White: Hoping for this year depending on bid prices. We are having a neighborhood meeting on March 22nd.

Erickson made a motion to endorse the NHDES Wetlands Permit and the City of Dover CUP, Kramer-Perry seconded. Vote: 7 in favor



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- B. City of Dover Conditional Use Permit for 44 Maple Ave., LLC (Owner: Dennis Ciotti), Assessor's Map 30, Lot 19, zoned I-1, located at 44 Maple Avenue.

Hunt: Aube will sit on this application.

Chris Berry was present to explain the proposal for redevelopment of the parcel by replacing an industrial building with 2 six-unit buildings and associated parking, with parking and drainage, creating 3,600 square feet of disturbance within the 50 foot wetland buffer along Berry Brook. The building has been cut and shortened once to remove it from Berry Brook. Stoney Ridge Environmental looked at impacts of Berry Brook. Most parking will take place on the adjacent lot through an easement. The UNH study has found that this is an urban brook that has been impacted by development. Improvements to the brook have been made over the last few years. A subsurface sand filter system is being proposed to handle the storm water, which is discharged through a level spreader. No impact to any wetlands. Signs for wetland buffers will be installed. Silt soxx will be used for inlet protection. All run-off goes through the sand filter.

Lyon: What maintenance is required?

Berry: It is pretty easy. You use a vacuum truck and a jet truck.

Hunt asked Berry to provide a more detailed description of the level spreader.

Berry drew a sketch of the level spreader that is grass lined and indicated that all drainage from the adjacent parking will also go through the sand filter.

Fellows: I appreciate all the thought and care that has been taken to improve the impacts on Berry Brook.

Lyon: This is a great example of urban redevelopment that improves the situation in terms of run-off to brook.

Fellows made a motion to endorse the Conditional Use Permit, Erickson seconded. Vote: 7 in favor

- C. Request for expenditures from the Conservation Fund for:

1. Open Lands Committee Conservation Easement Appraisal – not to exceed \$5,000

Bird explained that the Open Lands Committee is requested funding to hire an appraiser to prepare a conservation easement appraisal for a property that can't be identified at this point. There is about \$385,000 in fund with almost \$143,000 in receivables. Discussed the conservation fund and the Current Use program.

Lyon made a motion to approve the expenditure from the Conservation Fund not to exceed \$5,000 for an appraisal, Kramer-Perry seconded. Vote: 7 in favor

5. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

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

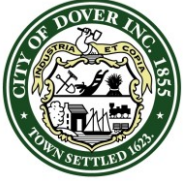
1. DES letter requesting more information from Kimberly Wesson at 407 Dover Point Road for seawall.
2. DES letter approving permit for Daniel Ayer on McKone Lane for dock.
3. DES letter requesting more information from Little Bay Marina at 423 Dover Point Road

6. OTHER BUSINESS:

- A. Update on Forest Management of City-owned Parcels

Fellows reviewed the sub-committee meeting held on 3/4/19. It was a productive session. We selected a Chair and Vice Chair. Discussed goals of forest management. We will be updating the Commission on a regular basis. We looked at list of parcels and discussed planting trees.

- B. Discussion on Update of Land Protection Criteria to Account for Climate Change by OLC



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Bird: We met with Kyle Pimental from SRPC to discuss incorporating climate change into the criteria that OLC uses to assess properties under consideration for protection. Looking for Conservation Commission feedback.

Lyon: Use the Coastal Viewer to look at the maps.

Aube: Please send us a link to the viewer.

Bird: If you have any comments please send to me prior to the OLC meeting next week.

- C. Full Moon Snowshoe Hike – Sponsored by the Open Lands Committee – Saturday, 3/23/19 at 7:30 PM – Cassily Conservation Land – off Hillside Drive

Bird: This event has been rescheduled due to the lack of snow.

- D. Discussion on Funding for Membership in NH Association of Conservation Commissions

Bird: The city is working on the budget and wants input on the value of membership in the NHACC. The annual fee is \$1,503. What are the benefits of membership and is it worth the money?

The Commission discussed the benefits of membership.

Fellows: It is good to support an organization that promotes conservation commissions and advocates for us.

Kramer-Perry: Our voice will be stronger with the support of NHACC and other members on statewide issues.

Lyon: We all should sign up to be on their list serve.

Erickson made a motion to endorse the membership in the NHACC in the City budget, Lyon seconded. Vote: 7 in favor

Bird: I received an e-mail from Emily Murphy, a Dover resident, with information about house bill 442, related to closing the hunting season for coyotes for 6 months of the year. She is looking for support from the Conservation Commission to endorse the bill.

After some discussion the consensus was that they did not have enough information on the issue to take a position as a group, but that individual members could do the research and contact state representatives if so desired.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.