

**Stratham Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
Public Session
October 27th, 2021**

Conservation Commission Members Present: Bill Kenny, Bill McCarthy, Ana Egana, Bob Keating, Brad Jones, Kyle Saltonstall, Allison Knab, Dan McAuliffe, Tim Copeland

Non-Members Present: Mark Connors, Town Planner and Seth Hickey, Parks and Rec Director

Meeting Called to order @ 7:00 PM

New Business:

CC minutes:

22-Sept-2021 Public and Non-Public: Bob Keating moved to accept as written; Kyle Saltonstall second – motion passed unanimously.

Mail:

Easement Monitoring Report – Winnicut Road – Jones (1) Easement: No issues identified

NH Association of Conservation Commissions – They provided a summary of their activities in the past year. Also, our yearly dues are due: \$550. Bill McCarthy moved to have those dues paid with money from next year's budget. Allison Knab second – motion passed unanimously.

Trail Management:

Seth provided an update on the activities of the Trail Management Advisory Committee. There was a trail maintenance day on October 23rd. A large group of Stratham residents volunteered (~ 30 people). There were repairs done to the Tote Road trail, which have suffered from some erosion. There is a second maintenance trail day being organized for November 6th. They hope to do some repairs to the Kitty Rock trail. This was one of the recommendations in the Trail Management Report. There are some water issues at the bottom of the trail that they hope to address. They will be replacing water bars with recycled conveyor belts, which allows for 2-way traffic.

Seth was open to hosting a site walk for members of the CC next week so we could see the issues being address first-hand. They wanted to carry out the fixes in the Fall to avoid additional damage in the Spring.

TMAC will be hosting another public session. They are aiming for the first week of December

Stratham Source Water Protection Plan

This is a master plan developed to protect town water sources from future contamination. This is important in Stratham as we rely on well water. The plan has specific recommendations and there may be funds from the RPC next year that may be able to help implement some of these recommendations. Examples of issues to explore: limiting uses in areas close to aquifers; acquisition of lands close to sensitive water sources, etc.

Mark is to send a link to the CC members so they can review the plan and provide comments. The plan may be adopted in a November 2nd meeting.

Old Business:

Aberdeen West

Request for the installation of solar panels. Site walk on November 2nd.

There was a public meeting that was well-attended. The action item from that meeting was the site walk. The site walk may allow a discussion around where to place the solar panels. However, this doesn't address the fact that there is a "no development" requirement. The town should have a policy for the usage of public lands for future technologies and this is something that the Planning Board would like to address.

8 Oxbow Farm Road

The tidal docking structure was approved. This was after the CC sent a letter indicating no objections to this request.

7:38 PM

Bill McCarthy moved to enter Non-Public Session to discuss updates on real estate options, Tim Copeland second - motion passed unanimously.

8:05 PM

Bill McCarthy moved to exit Non-Public Session and seal the minutes, Bob Keating second - motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting could combine the November and December meetings and it could take place Dec 8th. This would help accommodate schedules during the Holiday Season.

Bill Kenny moved to have the next meeting on Dec. 8th , Ana Egana second - motion passed unanimously.

8:10 PM

Bill McCarthy moved to adjourn, Bob Keating second– motion passed unanimously; Meeting adjourned

Next meeting scheduled for 7 PM on Wednesday, December 8th at the Municipal Center and via teleconference.

Respectfully Submitted:

Ana Egana

Serving as Secretary