Stratham Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes Public Session February 23rd, 2022

Conservation Commission Members Present: Bill Kenny, Bill McCarthy, Ana Egana, Bob Keating, Brad Jones, Kyle Saltonstall, Allison Knab.

Non-Members Present: Mark Connors, Town Planner

Meeting Called to order @ 6:59 PM

New Business:

CC minutes:

226-Jan-2022 Public and Non-Public: Bill McCarthy moved to accept as written; Ana Egana second – motion passed unanimously.

December minutes need to be redistributed and will come up for approval at the next meeting

7:00 PM

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

8:04 PM

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

Mail:

SELT Reports of Conservation Easement Monitoring:

Barker #1: No concerns/activities reported

Barker #2: No concerns/activities reported

Broaderick Property: No concerns/activities reported

Jones Property: No concerns/activity reported. Presence of woolly adelgid noted

Roberts Property: Invasive species observed (Japanese knotweed; burberry)

Scamman #1: Numerous brush piles from abutters observed. SELT to contact abutters to have brush piles removed

Scamman #2: Activity from abutters observed. SELT worked with the owners to have the property posted

Short Property: No concerns/activities reported. Owner planning to have a small X-mas tree farm. Coordination with the town is recommended as this activity may impact some trails.

Annual Roadside Cleanup Day

May 14th was chosen as the date with May 15th as the rain date. Bill Kenny will reserve the Pavillion. Mark Connors will reach out to Nate to get a dumpster for the event. Dan McAuliffe usually puts the banner up and the date is announced in our facebook page. We can get the announcement in the Newsletter and notify the schools. Activities can be organized in the March 23rd meeting.

Open Space Plan

A community public event will be organized after Town Meeting (date TBD) to ask for feedback from the community on what they want in the Open Space Plan.

TMAC Update

Provided by Bill McCarthy. The recent work done by volunteers was described. The priority areas that have been identified as needing some maintenance work were mentioned. The group is working on the 10-year, 5-year and 3-year plans and goals. These will distinct phases for the implementation of some of the recommendations from Snowhawk. Signage is one of the big issues addresses in the report. Different approaches on how to count that people who use the park and determine usage metrics were discussed.

Rain Barrels and Compost Bins

We have 8 compost bins that were not sold last year. Bill Kenny will try finishing to sell these. This year we will not be purchasing any additional rain barrels or compost bins.

Old Business:

Salt Usage In-town to Treat Roads:

Bill Kenny spoke with Nate about the practices that the department currently utilize. The department is doing some additional in-house training to try to minimize the spread of salt on the roads. In 2019 the town purchased 3 trucks that use old technology to distribute the salt. This can result in oversalting. The town is planning to buy a new truck with newer digital technology that will distribute the salt better and where needed. This should help minimize oversalting and its impact.

There are currently no low salt areas in town. Allison Knab to ask the Great Bay Reserve if they have any guidance on how low salt areas are determined.

Planning Board Activities

Robert Roseen stepped down from the Planning Board. There is an opening for an alternate.

CC Positions

Bill Kenny, Kyle Saltonstall and Tim Copeland were up for reappointments.

8:49 PM

Bob Keating moved to adjourn, Brad Jones second– motion passed unanimously; Meeting adjourned

Next meeting scheduled for 7 PM on Wednesday, March 23rd at the Municipal Center.

Respectfully Submitted:

Ana Egana

Serving as Secretary