

Conservation Commission Public Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2017

Present: Allison Knab, Bob Keating, Pat Elwell, Bill Kenny, Bill McCarthy, Joe Lovejoy, Tim Copeland, Dan McAuliffe

Also, Paul Deschaine, Town Administrator

Meeting Minutes

No minutes were available to review. Allison will contact Donna regarding missing minutes.

Mailbox

The NRRRA annual conference is May 22 - 23, 2017 at the Radisson Inn in Manchester. Any CC member interested in attending should let Allison know so that CC could reimburse registration fee.

The CC received an invoice from SELT for work done by Jones and Beach regarding the Barker Farm conceptual development plan for \$3450.00. Paul is going to check with SELT to determine if it is due and payable now. If it is, Paul has authority as previously voted on to take funds from Land Conservation Fund.

NHDES Drinking Water & Groundwater Bureau Supply Lines newsletter was received.

UNH Cooperative Extension rep Lisa Graichen, has asked to come before the CC at its next meeting on April 26 with her program: NH Setting Sail – Conservation in a Changing Climate. Allison will arrange this.

Municipal updates

Verizon may be coming back to the PB to discuss placing a tower at the Audi dealership.

Scamman's is appealing denial of cell tower. Audi was before Planning Board to present possibility of a cell tower there.

Winterberry update regarding arsenic levels and a dried up community well in the development. An emergency connection to Aquarion water system from North Hampton was approved last year. Now there is an order from DES to allow this to be a permanent connection, Stratham BOS and PB both approved this also with conditions, however North Hampton is arguing that it should not be allowed for a variety of unsubstantiated reasons. The subdivision is meeting with Paul and Aquarion to discuss petition to the PUC and so Aquarion can acquire a franchise right for those 43 homes. The Town recognizes the uniqueness of the situation.

Pat updated about ZBA meeting that was held 4/11/17 for the 115& 117 Union Rd property. In the proposal, the structure did not meet the 50' wetland setbacks and the driveway impacted the 25' buffer zone. The two lots, which have been taxed at a building lot rate for more than 50 years, were proposed to be combined into one, yet still could not avoid wetland impacts. Tavis noted that this lot is not buildable per current standards. The test pits do not meet the Stratham seasonal high water table requirements of 18 inches, and only meet the state 12" requirement. Although Pat raised many concerns about the reasons that our wetland setback regulations exist, and the potential for significant runoff into the adjacent wetland, and the potential for significant encroachment by the landowner into the surrounding wetlands, the ZBA approved all variances.

Clean Up Day

Tim will be getting chocolate from Lindt.

Bill M will touch base with Donna regarding blue bags.

Allison will ask Brad about vests and gloves.

Pat will send Allison copy of flyer. Pat will do press releases.

Dan will put up banner at SHP.

Allison will contact Seth regarding putting up announcement on SHP and Town message board, and Matt Larrabee regarding firehouse message board.

Paul will clarify where dumpster will be delivered and check with Colin regarding his availability.

Bill M will get donuts, coffee and hot cocoa for the morning.

Pat will order subs from Market Basket the week before and Allison will pick up.

Paul shared information from a WMUR TV spot regarding meth making in a bottle and the potential for bottles to be discarded along roadways.

Dan will produce a flyer for dos and don'ts of cleanup for participants to address safety issues.

Compost bin/Rain barrel sale

Bill K. advised the CC that the Compost bin/rain barrel pallets will be delivered first week of May. The CC decided that pick up at the Highway Dept. will be conducted that same day as the clean-up day, May 6, 9 – 11 am. Bill will email everyone who made a purchase.

Barker Farm Project

Barker Farm site walk week May 8. Allison will schedule date/time.

Solar Energy Program

Dena Stern, Stratham Conservation Commission, Outreach Liaison, coordinated a presentation entitled "Our Residential Solar Journey" on Thursday, April 6 at 6:30pm. Stratham resident Lester Cuff shared how solar technology helped his family reduce their reliance on fossil fuels and significantly cut their

annual utility costs. Lester discussed residential solar technology, NH government regulations, and energy efficient systems and how the Cuff family was able to save an equivalent of 674 trees with just 1.4 acres of Stratham land. Bill McCarthy introduced the program and Lester. Approximately 30-60 people attended the program.

Other

Joe Lovejoy noted that the Selectmen felt a recent Facebook post regarding where to put a place to put a cell tower sounded as though it was an endorsement. The Selectmen do not want posts to indicate that they are taking a position and instead to indicate that the proposal is coming from a private third party.

Joe moved to adjourn, Tim seconded. 8:24 pm

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday April 26, 7:00pm at the Stratham Municipal Center.

Respectfully submitted, Pat Elwell