

MINUTES OF MEETING
May 2, 2012
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Approved at the June 6, 2012 meeting

PRESENT- Lisa Morin, Jane Connelly, Debra Williams Mike Foote, and Hillary May

ABSENT- Dean Anson **and** Marnie Schulz

OTHERS PRESENT: Jessica Harding , Associate Candidate John Ayer , Gilford Planning Director, John Goodhue, Chair Gilford Planning Department and Scott McPhie, Laconia Planning Department.

CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order by H. May at 6:06 PM

a. Review minutes from the April 2, 2012 meeting.

D. Williams made a motion to approve the public minutes of April 2, 2012 as written. The motion was seconded by H. May and passed 4-0.

Lisa Morin arrived at 6:15

L. Morin recused herself from the Wal-Mart Discussion due to her abutter status and Belknap County involvement with its review.

I. New Business:

a. Wal-Mart expansion project preliminary discussion concerning potential impacts to Black Brook across City lines and mitigation options for wetland impacts.

Since the April 18, 2012 meeting lacked a quorum the Laconia Conservation Commission (Con Com) changed the meeting to a presentation upon request of the applicant because the time clock was running for the individuals present tonight. The formal Wal-Mart presentation will occur at a later date and any discussion will be placed on the next available meeting agenda. The purpose of bringing the topic up for review tonight is to make public the presentation at the May 1 meeting for the public record.

J. Ayer and J. Goodhue introduced themselves and began a general discussion. H. May and S. McPhie thanked them for coming but added they needed to begin the meeting.

D. Williams, M. Foote, D. Anson and S. McPhie were present at the discussion on April 18, 2012. S. McPhie Bill Stack, Engineer for Steve Smith, Caleb Aaron, representing the plaza owners, Rod Dyer, Attorney for the project, and Tom Sokolowski, wetland scientist from SEC were all in attendance. C. Aaron presented the expansion proposal. T. Sokolowski explained the wetland impacts. B. Stack explained a three page site plan. Building impacts will be in Laconia with existing catch basins moved to the back of the site just in front of the new retaining wall. The large retention pond where most of the existing sites drainage ends up will be repaired and improved. No other additional details were provided. It was the understanding an additional meeting will need to take place when sufficient information is provided.

b. Coordination of a site walk of potential easement candidate

The Con Com agreed to a site walk on June 6 in place of their regular meeting. M. Foote also summarized his attendance at the Saving Special Places event and would work with S. McPhie to determine what publications the Con Com already has and which ones that would help with the project.

c. Jessica Harding, New Associate member candidate vote

The Con Com asked a few questions of the candidate and was pleased with her letter. J. Connelly made a motion to approve J. Harding as an Associate member, seconded by D. Williams. The motion carried 5-0-0.

All welcomed the new member and talked about amending the bylaws to create a more typical position of alternate member which acts under State RSA. An alternate may act as a voting member when appointed by the Chair to stand in for an absent full member. S. McPhie indicated D. Anson felt the Associate was ok for now but was open to future discussions.

d. Transfer Station Wildlife Habitat Invasive Species follow up and thank you

S. McPhie thanked L. Morin for providing the plantings for the natural planting event. He added the day went well with Belknap Landscaping, Waste Management, Laconia Con Com, and students all working together to make the day a success.

e. Volunteers for Invasive Species Removal Day

S. McPhie said he would check with the Con Com and schedule events at the transfer station this summer and hoped some of students from the various city schools would participate.

Liaison & Sub-Committee Reports:

Permit Sub-Committee - Questions and answers

Follow up with Dean

III. Other Business:

- Subdivision/ Site Plan update

No changes. See above.

Commissioners Comments

None

Staff Comments

None

IV. Adjournment:

M. Foote made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by J. Connelly. The motion passed 5-0-0.