

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
December 3, 2014
LACONIA CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Approved at the January 7, 2015 meeting

PRESENT- Dean Anson, Marnie Schulz, Lisa Morin, Mike Foote, and Deb. Williams

ABSENT- Hillary May

OTHERS PRESENT- Jon Jude, Mike Elidridge, Tom Selling

I. Call To Order :

Review of the minutes of the October 15 and November 5, 2014 meeting

L. Morin made a motion to approve the October 15, 2014 minutes as written. M. Foote seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-0

L. Morin made a motion to approve the November 5, 2014 minutes as amended. M. Foote seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-0

II. New Business:

- a. Tom Selling, PE, T. R. Selling Engineering, P.C. will present a re-install of a 24" diameter CMP culvert. The culvert will cross an existing one-foot wide scrub-shrub wetland to gain access into the property.

The following items were still of concern and were added to clarify the November 5, 2014 minutes.

Please address the following concerns:

1. Produce some additional alternative MSDS Sheets
2. Recommend water testing and/or soil testing
3. Send the MSDS Sheets to Laconia Water Works
4. How quickly will the paint balls break down in water
5. Additional information on Paintball Parks in other parts of the State and Country should be provided
6. No pesticides or herbicides should be applied within 100-feet of the vernal pool buffer or within 50-feet of any wetland.

M. Foote will provide additional details from the Paint Ball Institute of America.

T. Selling arrived and provided updated plans and agreed to amend his submittal to reflect these final concerns. The Con Com agreed to sign the expedited dredge and fill tonight as many of their issue have been addressed. The TRC process should catch any remaining concerns and publish them for review by the Planning Board.

- b. Conservation Commission discussion and comments on NHDES Paugus Bay Milfoil Control Project

The City of Laconia Planning Department was pleased to receive NHDES funding for Paugus Bay milfoil control activities. A meeting was held in Concord to review the NHDES proposal. The meeting addressed any questions or concerns the representatives from Laconia had about NHDES recommended strategy.

D. Anson expressed concerns about using the chemical 2-4-D in a public drinking water supply. S. Nuttelman, Director of Laconia Water Works, explained some private applications of 2-4-D have occurred at Langley and Pickerel Cove. All applications were made well north of the City of Laconia water intakes. The applications were made in small concentrations of seven parts per billion. The current grant proposal recommends the use of 2-4-D much closer to the Laconia Drinking Water intake at concentrations of 70 parts per billion. The question arose about where the currents would take the 2-4-D. D. Anson asked if there were any studies providing information on previous 2-4-D applications of 70 parts per billion concentrations applied to public water supplies. Information like that will be important to have to reduce any impacts to the water supply.

D. Anson reminded members Milfoil is an environmental inconvenience and impacts aquatic health only. According to a 245 page scientific report 2-4-D or its byproducts may be a direct threat to human health. Does the chemical have any impact on the liver, kidney, or other vital organs? What about the danger of any of the residual byproducts generated from the application. Keep in mind this would not be a one-time exposure this would include consuming water each day. We need to have NHDES provide us with answers to these health concerns.

Since we are on such a short deadline I think it would be easier to recommend the elimination of the use of 2-4-D entirely and create a five year milfoil management plan. Amy Smagula, Aquatic invasive species coordinator for the State of New Hampshire expressed the milfoil in Paugus Bay has spread as far as it can. The City of Laconia is already taking measures to halt the spread of milfoil with benthic barriers. The water works utilizes divers to maintain the barriers and monitor any sediment movement that could spread the milfoil. Taking this action now would consider all our concerns and may generate additional long term solutions to the milfoil problem.

The Con Com should also discourage private entities from applying 2-4-D at Langley and Pickerel Cove. The chemical may have a minimal health effect on some but an adverse impact on others. J. Jude agreed the use of 2-4-D or any chemical that is not required to maintain a water supply should be discouraged. Unfortunately 2-4-D appears to be the only chemical that works long term to remove. He cited various studies showing the application of Diquat has only a temporary impact on Milfoil. Navigator and Sulpen D were the only other two popular chemical options in use. Unfortunately those chemicals are effective for only a few more years then the Sulpen D.

D. Anson suggested studying how the currents of Paugus Bay flow to determine if all the 2-4-D applications would find their way to the intake areas. We have to energize the weed watcher program. He then handed out a draft letter to be forwarded to NHDES expressing the Con Coms concerns.

D. Anson will contact an EPA speaker. The Speaker can address the dangers of adding chemicals to drinking water supplies. L. Morin added Peter Jensen from Moultonborough, New Hampshire would be a good local contact concerning milfoil control plans.

L. Morin made a motion to submit the letter as written to Amy Smagula, aquatic invasive species coordinator for the State, and carbon copy it to those in attendance at NHDES meeting in Concord. D. Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-0.

III. Old Business:

a. Brook subcommittee updates

A site walk took place on November 19, 2014. The purpose of the walk was to review progress made concerning the Black Brook Geomorphological study. A short introductory discussion at City Hall was followed by a walk in Gilford along a tributary of Black Brook. M. Murawski, representing Du-Bois and King, explained they had evaluated the Brook from its origins in Gilford up to the Wal-Mart site. They have already located some areas where improvements to the Brook could take place. The Con Com members in attendance were able to get some of their questions answered. Many other questions will only be answered at the end of the study.

The Con Com felt strongly Spinnaker Cove should take ownership of the remaining section of Black Brook emptying into Paugus Bay. Divers should be hired to pull any remaining invasive milfoil materials. Jon Jude suggested the area off Union Avenue may need to be dredged to prevent to reduce milfoil movement. S. McPhie explained the study itself should answer these concerns.

Contact is being made with various property owners along the Brook. The objective is to assist with final funding of the project. One additional owner has pledged funds toward completion of the project. Additional funding sources are always being sought out.

b. Discussion and Changes to New Hampshire Wetland Regulations

See the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Web site. Bring questions or concerns to any upcoming meeting.

c. Discussion of time commitment and request for volunteers for the "Soak up the Rain stormwater Initiative

L. Morin announced that Jillian McCarthy, representing NHDES, will speak to the Laconia Con. Com. concerning "SOAK UP THE RAIN" on January 21, 2014.

d. Yearly Budget vote

L. Morin made a motion to approve next year's 2015-2016 Conservation Budgets in the amount of \$13, 820. The motion includes reinstating the \$900.00 line item for annual fees 01-422-390-0000. The addition of \$10,000.00 realized from Planning Department Master Plan savings. The \$10,000 to be placed into a new account 01-422-304-0000 O/S Contracts. The proposed budget total would equal \$13,820 dollars. The motion was seconded by M. Foote. The motion passed 5-0-0.

IV. Liaison & Sub-Committee Reports:

Permit Sub-Committee review and updates

Four permits were reviewed at the meeting mostly concerning dock replacements in kind.

V. Other Business:

- Subdivision/ Site Plan update

Final Langley Cove Comments should be provided.

- Commissioners Comments

D. Williams was very concerned about the copious amounts of salt being applied to the Middle school parking lot. S. McPhie asked if an independent group provided plowing services to the schools. D. Williams said it was not the City Public Works Department. It was suggested if the issue was a concern to the Laconia Con Com they might want to send a letter to the school department about reducing heavy salt application.

- Staff Comments

VI. Adjournment:

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