

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING/MEETING

April 13, 2016

LACONIA CONSERVATION COMMISSION

CITY Hall

Room 200A

Approved at the May 4, 2016 meeting

- I. CALL TO ORDER** : Dean Anson called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. (A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS PROVIDED)

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

MILFOIL SUBCOMMITTEE Members Present: Jon and Dominic Jude

OTHERS PRESENT- Matt Murawski, Ripple Natural Resources, LLC, subcontractor for DuBois and King and Warren Hutchins, Chair of the Laconia Planning Board

II. REVIEW OF THE MINUTES:

1. Review of the public minutes for the March 16, 2016 meeting

L. Morin made a motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by D. Williams. The motion passed 6-0-0.

III. New Business:

PUBLIC HEARING (Open & Close):

1. Matt Murawski will present the latest version of the Black Brook Watershed plan to meet one of the requirements of the Local Source Water Protection Grant.

M. Murawski presented the Black Brook geomorphological study and then entertained questions from the Conservation Commission (see attached presentation). Various projects to improve water quality along the Brook were shown. Aerial photographs of each area provided finer details of the Brook. Specific projects were shown allowing the communities of Gilford and Laconia, New Hampshire to pursue additional grant funds now that all data and details are in and acceptable NHDES format.

Some general suggestions made by Conservation Commission member and others include:

Modify existing paved surfaces in favor of porous pavement. The Lowes parking lot in Gilford is very large and may present future opportunities to reduce parking spaces and add porous pavement. W. Hutchins complimented John Ayer, Gilford Planning Director, explaining that many of the Lowes drainage connections are improvements to the previous storm drains that expelled water directly into the Brook. New mechanical storage and filtration chambers were added to treat the water before entering the Brook. Due to the information presented tonight it will be important to include the Gilford Conservation Commission in a joint Public Hearing to be held on May 18, 2016. W. Hutchins added the Bank of New Hampshire is a great community partner and because

we were made aware tonight they have a potential project listed in the report we should reach out to them before the next public hearing. There is an older gas station located on the Brook in Gilford it may eventually need to be upgraded. W. Hutchins suggested we schedule a meeting with Jeff Hayes, Director of the Lakes Region Planning Commission, to discuss brownfield opportunities along the Brook.

S. McPhie reminded M. Murawski and DuBois and King that the project must have all invoices dated and in place before June 30, 2016 so the City can bill NHDES and properly access grant funds.

No other public questions or concerns were expressed at this time.

PUBLIC MEETING CONTINUED:

1. Jon Rokeh & Peter Schauer will discuss the Appleridge wetland buffer replanting plan.

J. Rokeh presented a replanting plan in response to the site plan violation 235-17 where trees were cut in the protected wetland buffer. The cutting became necessary because overhead powerline installation, also in violation of the approved site plan, was undertaken without seeking a waiver from the Planning Board.

The buffer area was fairly dry and the few trees that were removed will be replaced by a substantially improved group of plantings. The suggested wetland plantings will not impact the powerlines therefore reducing the need to disturb the buffer in the future.

The Conservation Commission was not pleased that a decision was made to cut the buffer without consulting with them. If proper notifications were made we would not have to have this discussion tonight.

D. Williams made a motion to accept the replanting plan with the following conditions:

1. Place all planting in the buffer by hand
2. Replace the viburnum in the planting plan due to a beetle infestation
3. Create a maintenance plan for the disturbed area

D. Christopher seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0.

2. Milfoil subcommittee update

The draft of the milfoil plan for Paugus Bay is underway. Please provide any feedback to S. Perley, milfoil subcommittee Chair, so she can pass those changes to A. Smagula at NHDES.

3. Update on Laconia Key-Club Spring projects

The tentative date for the Rain garden project will be early May. An invasive species removal project may also be undertaken at that time. The Laconia Conservation Commission would once again like to thank the Key Club for their interest in helping out on these important projects. A City Park area will be chosen so the general public can see a functioning rain garden.

IV. Liaison & Sub-Committee Reports:

1. Permit Sub-Committee review and updates

More permits are being submitted as the weather improves.

V. Other Business:

1. Subdivision/ Site Plan update

See the above Appleridge presentation.

The Lilac Valley project will also require a waiver due to above ground power line installation.

2. Commissioners Comments

D. Christopher explained the exciting 4H project he would be undertaking at Lochmere Meadows. He would be installing raised planting beds at an affordable housing project in Tilton. The raised bed project will not only enhance the appearance of the entrance to the development but it will provide healthy food opportunities for its residents. There will be two 4' by 8' beds installed.

D. Williams said the raised beds installed at the Memorial school are a success. The vegetables are now utilized in school meal preparation. The herb gardens are also doing particularly well.

3. Staff Comments

None

VI. Old Business:

1. Brook Subcommittee updates

See tonight's attached presentation

2. Update on 30-foot waterbody buffer research and presentation

The presentation took place on April 5, 2016 with a follow up vote to be heard on May 3, 2016.

3. Update on Transfer Station Earth Day Yearly Event

M. Schulz and L. Morin will represent and educate the group of Girl Scouts at the annual Laconia transfer station wildlife project. Belknap County Conservation District Seedlings will be added to enhance the pollinator garden already in place. We hope to have the wildlife habitat enhancement project Kiosk set up very soon. The Kiosk will also contain an invasive species component so users of the transfer station can learn how to properly dispose of invasive materials.

4. Non-Public Session concerning land acquisition per RSA: 91: A: II (d)-(roll call vote required).

Did not go into Non-public session

VII. Adjournment:

M. Schulz made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by L. Morin passing 6-0.