

CONCORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

November 13, 2019, 6:30 PM

MINUTES

Second Floor Conference Room, City Hall, 41 Green Street

The Concord Conservation Commission (CCC) held its regular monthly meeting on November 13, 2019 in the 2nd floor conference room at 41 Green Street.

Attendees: Chair Kristine Tardiff, Vice-Chair Jim Owers, Councilor Brent Todd, Members Chris Kane, Jeff Lewis, Rick Chormann, and Kathy Healy.

Absent: Members Tracey Boisvert, and Alternate Stefan Mattlage.

Staff: Beth Fenstermacher, Assistant City Planner
Lisa Fellows-Weaver, Administrative Specialist

Public: Rebeca Ross

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Tardiff at 6:32 p.m.

Non-public session for the discussion of the acquisition of conservation property in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II(d) and for the consideration of legal advice provided by legal counsel in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II(1).

Mr. Kane made a motion, second by Councilor Todd, to enter into a non-public session, per RSA 91-A:3,II(d) and for the consideration of legal advice provided by legal counsel in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II(1). By a roll call vote, the motion passed by a unanimous vote at 6:33 p.m.

Mr. Lewis made a motion, second by Mr. Chormann, to come out of non-public session at 8:10 p.m. With a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Lewis made a motion, second by Mr. Chormann, to seal the minutes of the non-public session, per RSA 91-A:5, IV. With a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

1. Minutes

October 9, 2019

A motion was made by Mr. Lewis, seconded by Councilor Todd to approve the October 9, 2019 minutes, as amended, with edits that do not alter the content of the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

2. NHDES items

None

3. Reports

a. Trails Subcommittee

Mr. Lewis attended the Trails Subcommittee meeting and provided a synopsis of the meeting for the Commission. He mentioned the upcoming hikes for December and January. Trail work and maintenance has continued through the fall and the Tuesday morning work group will continue in Spring of 2020. A \$100.00 donation was received from the South Congregational Church and the committee decided to use the funds to purchase tools for trail maintenance.

Ms. Fenstermacher noted that the bids for the timber sale for Broken Ground will be opened soon.

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Ms. Fenstermacher stated that Mr. Klemarczyk and Mr. Owers have walked the Hardy lot for future trail opportunities.

The Backwoods Loop Trail was presented to Trails Subcommittee today. Mr. Lewis stated that they are planning to do a site walk in the next month. Ms. Fenstermacher will coordinate. The December meeting will note a public hearing for January or February.

Someone has been removing the brush that Ron placed to close a section of the re-routed Murray Trail at Oak Hill trails; it has been an ongoing problem. It was recommended that a sign be placed at this location explaining why the trail was closed.

A discussion was held regarding closing Healy Park as well as closing the Merrimack River Trail (MRT) due to homeless camps. Ms. Tardiff stated that the Healy Park was a greater problem. She is interested in keeping the MRT trail open. It was suggested that a report be made to the police department should there continue to be an issue. The website was updated to indicate that the Healy Park trails are closed. The Commission was not inclined to close the MRT at this time.

141 hours of trail work has been reported so far for this year.

b. *Forestry*

The Forester's report was circulated.

Ms. Fenstermacher stated that Mr. Klemarczyk has been working with Beaver Meadow Golf Course relative to the removal of pine trees to provide more sunlight for the fairways.

Ms. Fenstermacher stated that the bid opening for Broken Ground is scheduled for tomorrow.

Terrill Park project is moving forward. Mr. Klemarczyk and Mr. Gill are working together to get everything done at one time similar to the Rollins Park process.

c. *Concord Tree Committee*

Ms. Fenstermacher provided an update of the last Concord Tree Committee meeting. She stated that the Committee will be focusing on reaching out to various city committees to introduce themselves and to explain the importance of trees.

Ms. Fenstermacher stated that the Committee has been working to update the 2000 tree inventory. There is a software program "Tree Works" that can be purchased for \$800 per year. She noted that there may be some funding available through NHDES.

d. *Local River Advisory Committees*

Nothing new to report.

4. City Open Space

a. *Snowmobile Club Permits*

Ms. Fenstermacher stated that The Canterbury Snow Shakers, a snowmobile club, have requested to continue to obtain permits for the current trail for snowmobiling. The Commission did not have any issues with re-issuing the permits for this snowmobile club as well as the two other clubs that use City property.

Councilor Todd noted that there have been trucks and ATV travel continuing on the trails off Weir Road. Ms. Fenstermacher noted that there is funding in the budget available for gates. She will

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contact General Services for estimates. Councilor Todd stated that there have been some calls made to the police and suggested getting the reports. Ms. Fenstermacher stated that NH Fish & Game has offered to provide cameras along the trails as well.

5. City Council/Planning Board

a. Acquisition of a 2.4 ac parcel off Hot Hole Pond Rd, Map 10Z, Lot 3.

Ms. Fenstermacher stated that Council passed the acquisition of land and the expenditure of up to \$3,600 for the purchase of property off of Hot Hole Pond.

b. Rezoning

Councilor Todd reported that Council passed the request to rezone the Nault property off of Black Hill Road from Residential to Gateway Performance District.

6. Follow City Council/Planning Board

a. Murray Lot

Mr. Owers stated that a Purchase & Sales agreement has been established for the Murray lot. He stated that George Murray will be sending copy of a deed from the father that was never recorded. Council approved the purchase of the lot and he stated that the Commission can now move forward with preparing the deeds for the closing.

b. Solar Ordinance

Councilor Todd stated that the solar ordinance was passed by City Council with an amendment to the solar land coverage definition, which essentially increases the maximum lot coverage. Members expressed much frustration.

c. Education outreach – ConcordTV

This item was continued to a future meeting.

d. Update to Bylaws

This item was continued to a future meeting.

e. Public Notice Policy - continued to future meeting

f. Easement Enforcement Policy

A draft enforcement letter was reviewed. Discussion was held and amendments were made. The Commission continued this item to the next meeting to further review violations and to continue to develop a structure of enforcement letters.

g. Conservation Easement Standard Templates - continued to future meeting

7. Other Business

a. 2020 Meeting Schedule

The 2020 meeting schedule for the Trails Sub-committee and Conservation Commission were presented and accepted.

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8. Non-public session for the discussion of the acquisition of conservation property in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II(d).

Mr. Owers made a motion, second by Mr. Chormann, to enter into a non-public session, per RSA 91-A:3,II(d). By a roll call vote, the motion passed by a unanimous vote at 9:12 p.m.

Mr. Owers made a motion, second by Mr. Chormann, to come out of non-public session at 9:19 p.m. With a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Lewis made a motion, second by Mr. Chormann, to seal the minutes of the non-public session, per RSA 91-A:5, IV. With a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Lewis made a motion, second by Ms. Healy, to adjourn the meeting at 9:21 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Fellows-Weaver
Administrative Specialist