



# TOWN OF BOW

## Conservation Commission

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Approved as amended on June 15, 2020.

### Bow Conservation Commission

May 18, 2020

### Minutes

The regular meeting of the Bow Conservation Commission was held on May 18, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. via ZOOM Meeting Software. Chair Sandy Crystall called the meeting to order with the reading of the virtual meeting checklist and introduction of the members.

Members present: Sandy Crystall, Wendy Waskin, Bob Ball, Michael Hansen, and soon to be sworn in new member Dik Dagavarian. Ms. Crystall welcomed Mr. Dagavarian to the Commission after a brief introduction.

#### Items for Consideration/Discussion

##### **Richardson subdivision CUP and wetland application (Application 501-20 and CUP 402-20W)**

Jacques Belanger from J.E. Belanger Land Surveying was in the meeting to present the application. He went over the revised plan features, new and replaced wetland flags, and a new test pit that was done since the last meeting. He also noted that there were no vernal pools found on site. Members shared their site visit observations and asked questions about the extent of logging that was done and wetland impacts that resulted; wetlands crossing, culvert size, and driveway construction; overall wetland/buffer impact amounts, which did not seem to match between the plans and the narrative; possible water ponding and drainage issues when the driveway is put in. Dan Weed from the Bow Pioneers Club was also in the meeting and noted that the water issues are negligible for the trail in the winter. He also spoke about the possibility of relocating the trail again, given its current location in the backyard of the proposed house. Ms. Crystall also noted that the driveway is proposed through the area just south of the driveway placement that has been least disturbed by logging. The adjacent area to the south that has been mostly clear cut and disturbed. Ms. Crystall said that the logging was done right before the subdivision plans were submitted. Although a forestry notification had been submitted, which is done for logging without any development to follow. This seems like a predevelopment forestry operation. She asked if any restoration would be proposed for this area. The proposed crossing is not the least impacting alternative, given the fact that there is an already disturbed area nearby; the minimum impact designation should not apply as there is already disturbance on the lot. Discussion ensued about which alternative would be better – restoration or moving of the driveway. Mr. Hansen explained that it would be better to have less fill in the long term due to the shorter distance through the wetland.

*Ms. Waskin made a motion the Conservation Commission recommend that the restoration plan be developed before proceeding further with this design. Mr. Hansen duly seconded the motion and it passed by a roll call vote 3:0:1 with Mr. Ball voting yes, Mr. Hansen voting yes, Ms. Waskin voting yes, and Ms. Crystall abstaining due to being on the Planning Board that will review this application at the upcoming meeting.*

It was reiterated that the restoration plan should be for the area just south of the proposed driveway, that most mostly impacted by logging. It was also noted that the buffer signs would need to be properly affixed once the development commences and major debris clean up performed.

#### **NRI update**

Ms. Crystall spoke about the progress report and the invoice. After a brief discussion and some clarification a *motion was made by Mr. Ball made a motion to approve the invoice in the amount of \$1,032.15 (One thousand and thirty-two dollars and fifteen cents). Ms. Waskin duly seconded and motion passed by a roll call*

vote 4:0. Mr. Ball – yes; Mr. Hansen – yes; Ms. Waskin – yes; Ms. Crystall - yes.

### **Bow Open Spaces- request for approval of new trail bridge - Esker trail**

Ms. Crystall spoke about the request and her walk to look at the proposed location. Her observation was that the bridge was indeed necessary and that she made a suggestion that cedar be used instead of pressure treated wood as it is less detrimental to the environment and Ms. Crystall got the BOS to agree to use the cedar.

### **Application #102-20 by Keller Products for a special exception to excavate on 9 Gordon Road (Block 2, Lot 184-A) with access through 10 Noyes Lane (Block 2, Lot 187-A).**

Ms. Crystall showed the proposed application and plans for excavation. Discussion ensued and the following comments have been proposed regarding the proposal being for 99,500 sq. feet of disturbance, which is 500 sq. feet less than the threshold for a state Alteration of Terrain permit. The Commission wanted to know if the excavation would be limited to this size. Also it was noted that if there has been excavation on the parcel in the past 10 years or the excavation area is to be expanded in the future, this work will require an AOT permit. Another concern was with possibility of blasting if bedrock is encountered, and how will that be addressed? Additional requirements apply if blasting is needed. The next concern was dust control during the operation. It was also noted that the lot was in the aquifer/wellhead protection district, however this was a permitted use. Ms. Crystall said that she will forward the comments to the Zoning Board of Adjustment that will be reviewing the special exception later this week.

### **Other site reviews**

#### **Site Plan reviews for Rhonda Realty LLC, RRG, and Worrey/Reed lot line adjustment.**

The plans for each application were reviewed and the Commission members did not have comments.

### **Walker Forest logging**

Ms. Crystall noted that the cutting had been done (she walked it on Sunday). She had seen on the FB community page that a young person had posted concerns about the logging and its impact on wildlife. Ms. Crystall posted a response that mentioned the purpose included removal of wood with the American Beech bark disease and patch cuts for wildlife. The response seemed to be well received.

### **Turee Pond / Milfoil grant**

Ms. Crystall provided an update on her communications with Amy Smagula from NHDES about diver/DASH work. Mr. Ball provided the update on the operations of the VLAP program during the pandemic. He said he will proceed with the VRAP sampling on some streams in town. He would need approval to continue sampling under VLAP which would cost about \$230. *Mr. Hansen made a motion to approve the cost of VLAP testing for Turee Pond in the amount of \$230. Ms. Waskin duly seconded and motion passed 4:0 by a roll call vote: Ms. Crystall – yes; Mr. Hansen – yes; Mr. Ball – yes; Ms. Waskin – yes.*

### **Other items**

Ms. Crystall spoke about the Board of Selectmen approving the donation of land near the recently created Hamilton Court subdivision. The Town Manager will be working on having a deed prepared for the property.

### **Unapproved 4/13/2020 Minutes.**

The April 13, 2020 minutes were reviewed and small changes were made. *Ms. Waskin made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, which was duly seconded by Mr. Ball. Roll call vote was taken: Ms. Crystall – yes; Ms. Waskin – yes; Mr. Ball – yes; Mr. Hansen – abstained as he was not present at that meeting. Motion passed with a 3:0:1 vote (1 being abstention by Mr. Hansen).*

*Meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.*