



TOWN OF BOW

Conservation Commission

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Approved as amended on August 12, 2019.

Bow Conservation Commission Meeting – July 15, 2019 Minutes

The regular meeting of the Bow Conservation Commission was held on July 15 at 7:01 p.m. Chair Sandy Crystall called the meeting to order with the introduction of the members.

Members present: Sandy Crystall, Amanda Kallenbach, Michael Hansen, Wendy Waskin, and Bob Ball.

Items for consideration/discussion

NRI status

Ms. Crystall provided an update on the NRI contractor and said that the contract with Moosewood Ecological has been signed and they have already been working for about two weeks. She noted that she sent the company a schedule of the Commission meetings so that they could submit their progress reports before the regular monthly meeting. Ms. Crystall also noted that she had received the vehicle information from the consultants and notified the police, and that she had prepared vehicle letters. She said that the letter to landowners for access was drafted. Members reviewed the letter and made the necessary revisions. Ms. Crystall will incorporate the edits and sent it to the consultant. She noted that the GIS analysis will determine who will receive this letter is.

Wetland application/wetland CUPs/NHDES correspondence

CUP #504-19 Steven and Michael Chadwick & Joan Pushee, 71-77 Brown Hill Road. ("Hamilton Court").

Ms. Crystall noted that there was a site visit on Saturday, July 13th, and that the project engineer Jason Lopez was in attendance to present the project. She also noted that she will be letting Ms. Waskin take over this discussion, as Ms. Crystall will be voting on the application as the Planning Board member.

Mr. Lopez introduced himself and went over the details of the subdivision, which abuts Sundance Lane development, Townowned conservation land. There is a land-locked lot, the owner of which would donate it to the Town, if this subdivision goes in, .. He noted that this parcel will provide connectivity between the Walker Forest and Hammond Preserve. He then described the proposed subdivision, which is open space, with nine residential lots proposed initially. However, Mr. Lopez noted that based on the site walk outcomes, another version of the yield plan was being prepared for 12 conventional lots that will be presented along with the nine-lot version to the Planning Board later this week. He explained that the 12-lot plan would be an option in case the Planning Board would invoke the provision that allows it to require a conventional subdivision if it abuts conventional lots. Mr. Lopez answered questions about the rationale for the 12 lots and the feasibility of adding lots, and noted that this plan did not provide any open space or a minimum recreational land donation and that he was not sure if the landlocked piece agreement would apply in this case. He also noted that the 12-lot plan would have more wetland impacts for both the road and the individual driveways.

Mr. Lopez then went over the details of the open space nine-lot subdivision plan, which were as follows:

- 1190 feet of road, 60 foot right of way with 22 foot wide paved width, dead end cul-de-sac;
- 9 residential lots from 0.75 to 2.1 acres, each served by individual well, septic and underground utilities;

- No NHDES Alteration of Terrain permit required, and NHDES Wetlands Permit had been filed;
- Natural Heritage Bureau DataCheck revealed Blanding's turtle in the area but not on the property;
- Two vernal pools in the very back of the property will be noted on the plan;
- NH Fish and Game requested some notes to be added to the plan (guidance to on-site contractors for the Blanding's turtle) and a reinforced concrete pipe used for the roadway crossing; and the need to add information about the fate of the recreational land once it is decided.
- 1,580 sf of wetland and 24,585 sf of wetland buffer impact due to roadway construction (and drainage for the latter);

Then Mr. Lopez answered questions about drainage calculations and features; stormwater runoff; delineation of wetlands on the plan; stormwater detention pond maintenance, and that the developer will be conducting maintenance before the completion of the project; questions specific to drainage design and whether it would be possible to redesign it to accommodate infiltration and groundwater recharge as opposed to draining to the wetlands; what could happen if the 12-lot plan is proposed in terms of NHDES permits and whether they will have to be resubmitted.

Ms. Waskin noted that one recommendation by the Commission would be to design for groundwater recharge/infiltration. Members briefly discussed what they were providing comments for, the Conditional Use Permit, the NHDES wetlands permit, or both.

Mr. Ball asked to clarify the location of White Brook which is within a mile of the site, although the wetland application stated that it was more than one mile away. M. Ball mentioned that White Boork has native trout. Mr. Lopez responded that it would have to be the wetland scientist who can respond to that.

Ms. Crystall noted that there were some other comments that NH Fish and Game made about the Blanding's turtles and drainage, which are mentioned in correspondence included with the NHDES wetlands permit application. Mr. Lopez read the email into the record and noted that the wetland scientist is working on incorporating most of the comments onto the plan. **The use of deep sump catch basins was discussed, as it was not recommended by the NH Fish and Game but is preferred by the Public Works department. The catch basins were designed with curbing and closed drainage as opposed to sheet flow through the swales.** Ball noted that it would be good if the offer for the donation of the land-locked lot was attached to the plan to provide for connectivity between the conservation land.

Ms. Crystall noted that there was no Town Referral form and Ms. Waskin summarized the comments as such that the Conservation Commission supports the following:

- The donation of lot 117 (land locked parcel)to enhance connectivity of conservation lands; the open space 9 lot subdivision as opposed to the conventional one;
- NH Fish and Game recommendations to remove the catch basins with the grates for protection of potential turtle crossings;
- recommendation already built in regarding the culverts;
- stormwater infiltration option (ground water recharge);
- the Town taking ownership of the open space parcel;

Mr. Lopez stated that they have attempted to minimize the wetland and buffer impacts and he was wondering if the Commission had any comments on that. The members briefly discussed whether any alternatives were possible and general consensus was that the presented design was indeed the most appropriate in terms of minimizing impacts to the wetlands and buffers. Another discussion was on the closed drainage and Cape Cod curbing - the bituminous version was proposed, and Tim Sweeney of the Town Public Works department recommended straight granite curbing. Ms. Waskin noted that she would support the granite Cape Cod curbing.

Members also discussed whether they should comment on their preference for the number of lots given the fact that the 12-lot design has not been presented to them yet. Mr. Lopez noted that in case the 12-lot design is chosen, the developer will be back in front of the Commission for them to comment on it.

Ms. Crystall noted that Ms. Waskin will email the comments to Mr. Lopez.

Gardner - CUP #401-19w (status?)

Ms. Crystall noted that an email had been received by the Community Development Director Matt Taylor that the applicant was requesting to withdraw the application. No explanation was given as to why.

Site plan: Snow Family Holdings LLC, Application #203-19, Block 2, Lot 189, located at 1199 Route 3A

Ms. Crystall noted that it was a site plan for a new 2,400 sf office building and existing 1,200 sf tradesman shop. She said that the site is existing and some demolition will take place. Mr. Hansen noted that the old building has been taken down already. Ms. Crystall said that there are some wetlands in the rear of the lot, that the lot is in the aquifer protection district, and no fuel storage has been proposed. Members reviewed the plan and discussed its features and whether an aquifer protection permit should be required.

The following comments were made to the Planning Board:

- existing well that is being abandoned will need to be capped;
- conditional use permit for aquifer protection district should be submitted and provided to the Conservation Commission for review;
- location of leach field is within the building setback;

Turee Pond /VLAP Update

Mr. Ball provided an update on the latest chloride sampling he did and noted that numbers were still high, with the numbers in April being lower than in May, which was surprising. He said he will keep collecting data and looking at it over time. Mr. Ball also took another full set of samples in June on the pond but the results are not available yet. He also said that Ms. Crystall recommended a nitrogen sample which he did. In August, the NHDES biologist will be out on the pond taking samples. VLAP reports have been posted on the kiosk by the Turee Pond. NH Fish and Game will provide a sign that will clarify the horse power and speed regulations for the pond. Mr. Ball spoke about the erosion that is still present at the boat ramp on Turee Pond as well as the ramp is deteriorating. A short discussion ensued about the deterioration and possible solutions. General consensus was that Mr. Ball will check with NH Fish and Game on the status. Mr. Ball also spoke about his observation of the lack of milfoil and that he thought that the latest treatment worked really well.

Mr. Ball went to the Lakes Congress and provided a brief overview of what he learned there. He also noted that the clean, drain, and dry law has been passed in New Hampshire and any law enforcement office can enforce it. General consensus was to share the information with the Bow Police Department as a reminder.

Bow Open Spaces - Trail signs

Ms. Crystall noted that there was a discrepancy in the November 18, 2018 meeting minutes that had been overlooked when they were approved as the amount approved by the Commission for trails signs was larger. Ms. Crystall checked the recording and would like to fix it. The minutes stated the amount of \$1179, whereas the total should have been \$1,610.

Ms. Waskin made a motion to approve the amendment of November 18, 2018 meeting minutes to change the stated amount of \$1179 to \$1610 as was agreed upon at the meeting. Ms. Kallenbach duly seconded and motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

Bioblitz

Ms. Crystall noted that the Town was not selected for the Bioblitz, and the UNH Cooperative Extension will not have anything for those who would like to organize it by themselves any time soon. Ms. Crystall made a suggestion to organize the event by themselves and offered to provide some materials to whomever is willing to step up to the plate. None of the members took on the challenge.

UMRLAC - annual support

Ms. Waskin made a motion to approve the expenditure of up to \$200. Ms. Kallenbach duly seconded and motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

Project of regional impact - Lewis Farm - event venue

Ms. Crystall provided a brief description of the proposed project that would be Concord but very close to Bow, hence, the request for comment from the Bow Planning Board. She noted that the applicant had requested an extension to the August meeting. Ms. Crystall will forward the information to the members for their review.

FEMA map review (7/17, 1 pm at NH Fire Academy)

Ms. Crystall noted that FEMA has produced some new digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps and will be conducting a few flood insurance risk review meetings, and one in Concord will take place on July 17, 2019 at 1:00 PM at the Fire Academy.

Moose plate grants advertised: <https://www.agriculture.nh.gov/divisions/scc/grant-program.htm>

Ms. Crystall noted that the grants have been advertised and asked the members to review the link provided and make their suggestions.

November 2 - NHACC annual meeting

Ms. Crystall reminded the members about the meeting. She also noted that there is wetlands training on the new rules and it will be in September and October.

Ms. Waskin noted that the Merrimack Conservation District has some funding to do an organic lawn care project and she had offered that the Bow Conservation Commission could be cooperating with them on that project. She received a response about willingness to cooperate with Bow and that will involve several locations, a highly visible demonstration project, and a workshop. Ms. Waskin was able to solicit agreement from the Baker Free Library and she will be following up with the District representative. Ms. Waskin she believed that there would not be any initial investment on behalf of the Town, except the post completion maintenance. The library has also agreed to host the workshop.

Ms. Waskin made a motion that the Bow Conservation Commission will co-sponsor the Merrimack Conservation District organic lawn care project. Mr. Hansen duly seconded a motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Ms. Crystall also noted that a flyer on organic lawn care is displayed on the Bow Drinking Water Protection Committee webpage and asked Ms. Waskin to check with the committee if it needed any updates.

Unapproved 05/13/2019 Minutes.

The June 17, 2019 minutes were reviewed and changes were made. Ms. Kallenbach made a motion, duly seconded by Ms. Waskin to approve the minutes as amended. The motion passed with a majority vote in favor with Mr. Ball abstaining due to not being present at that meeting.

Ms. Kallenbach made a motion, duly seconded by Ms. Waskin to adjourn the meeting and the vote was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.