

Bristol Conservation Commission
February 6, 2019
Meeting Minutes

Call to order: 7:00 PM

Members Present: Janet Cote, Bonnie MacGillivray Blount, Richard Batchelder, Karen Bemis, and Sandra Heaney

Absent: Carroll Brown Jr.

Also Present:

Christina Goodwin – Land Use Manager; Matt & Bruce Barnard - septic designers

Janet Cote opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Minutes Review and Approval:

Janet Cote asked the members if they reviewed the minutes November 7, 2018. Bonnie MacGillivray Blount motioned to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Karen Bemis. The Commission voted **4 in Favor – 0 Opposed – 1 Abstained**, motion carried.

New Business:

Special Use Permit – Scott & Melanie Kelley

Christina said there are two sections of this project that require a Special Use Permit - the septic is within 125' of the wetlands and the retaining wall is within 50' of the wetlands, however, there will be no special use permit for the house. The project has already received approval from the state. Sandra Haney asked what would be done in the 50' wetland. Matt Barnard said they would be raising the grade for a storm water drain area. The retaining area would be two to four feet high. He also said the old pump house will remain and the septic system will be 87' further away and would be pumped back and behind the house. He said they will be saving most of the larger trees and replacing some. This drainage system will feed the trees and the driveway will be permeable. The wall will be ever loc block construction. Christina asked what would be done with the old septic. Matt and Bruce said it would be removed. The Commission had no issues with the project.

Schedule:

Christina asked the Commission to review the schedule, more specifically the July 3rd meeting. Janet said they can cancel the meeting and schedule another meeting if necessary. The Commission agreed.

Officers:

Janet reminded the Commission about her request to step down last year as Chair. She said Sandra was interested in stepping up. Richard Batchelder motioned to appoint Sandra Heaney as Chair and Janet Cote as Vice Chair, seconded by Bonnie MacGillivray. The vote was **5 in Favor – 0 Opposed – 0 Abstained**. The motion passed.

Plankey Spring:

Janet said she had received two calls this week regarding the spring wanting to know about testing and who was responsible for the spring. The Commission requested to put the information about the spring on the Conservation page of the website and to add a link for the Department of Environmental Services (DES).

Christina also said the Commission needs to move forward with their discussion on signage for the April meeting.

Unfinished Business:

Sandra said she attended the meeting with DES for changes in wetland permitting rules and procedures with other Conservation Committees. DES is suggesting quite a few changes such as cutting back approval times for permits. Janet said we only meet once a month and she thinks they would need to be more proactive as a committee. She also felt that we have a strong ordinance in town already, so we could pick up on what DES is dropping. DES wants to go from 75 days to 30 days on expedited permits and include four more expedited changes.

Communications:

Subdivision on North Main Street - Janet spoke about the subdivision on North Main Street near the water tower saying it should not concern us. We are concerned with wetlands.

Course offerings - The Commission has received a flyer for Grafton County about offerings. There is also a flyer about what's in your water if anyone is interested.

Member updates - Sandra spoke regarding Rebecca Mani saying she has been removed from the committee list as she has moved out of town. She also said there was a gentleman interested in being on the committee. Janet spoke and said you need to live in town and be registered as a voter in Bristol to be on the committee.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for March 6, 2019 at 7:00 PM.

Adjournment:

Richard Batchelder made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Sandra Heaney. The vote was **5 in favor – 0 opposed – 0 abstained**. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Vogan