

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

January 5, 2022

APPROVED: 4/6/22

AGENDA: INCORRECTLY DELINEATED WETLANDS – APPLICATION, CHECKLIST & INSTRUCTIONS
UPDATE TO WETLANDS OVERLAY
NH LANDFILL GROUNDWATER MONITORING PERMIT ANNUAL REPORT
SEPTIC SETBACK DISCUSSION
ALTERNATE MEMBER DISCUSSION
FYI: NHDES TOWN OF BRISTOL
CATTERALL EASEMENT UPDATES
BENNET WETLANDS
BROCHURE

ATTENDING: Carroll Brown (Chair), Janet Cote (Vice Chair), Jason Moore, Richard Batchelder, Karen Bemis (Zoom), Bonnie MacGillivray-Blout (Zoom)

ABSENT: None

OTHER: Christina Goodwin (Land Use Manager), members of the public

Mr. Brown called the meeting to order at 7:03pm with a quorum in-person.

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 6, 2021: The Commission members reviewed the minutes of October 6, 2021. Mrs. Cote made a motion, second by Mr. Batchelder, to approve the minutes as written. The motion carried 4-0-2.

NEW BUSINESS

INCORRECTLY DELINEATED WETLANDS FORMS – APPLICATION, CHECKLIST, INSTRUCTIONS

The Conservation Commission reviewed the proposed changes for the Incorrectly Delineated Wetlands process. Mr. Moore asked about adding a line for permission for the Commission to access a project site. There is currently a permission box for the Planning Board to access the site for a project. Ms. Goodwin also pointed out that a permission box should be added to the Special Use Permit Application.

WETLANDS OVERLAY

The Conservation Commission feels that the Wetlands Overlay District needs to be reviewed. There are steps for an applicant to appeal a delineation that isn't accurate, however, how does the Town look at fixing the delineation from years ago. Does the Town pay for a survey? Mr. Brown has talked to Alan Barnard, of Barnard Surveying. Mr. Barnard is familiar with wetlands, wetland delineation, etc., and is willing to attend a meeting of the Commission to discuss. The members agreed and will invite Mr. Barnard to the February meeting. Further discussion was held, including the possibilities of changing the wording of the current Zoning Ordinance to either match the NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) or defer the approvals to NHDES and not require an additional Special Use Permit. The Commission will continue their research before any final decisions on what to recommend to the Planning Board are completed.

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NH LANDFILL REPORTING

The Commission discussed their final review of the Landfill Monitoring changes submitted for the former landfill located on River Road.

ALTERNATE MEMBER DISCUSSION

The Commission discussed options for the membership issues. With the emergency orders being eliminated the requirement to have a quorum of the members in the room to hold meetings is causing some issues. The Commission considered alternatives, such as members changing to alternates, etc., and asked Ms. Goodwin to ask for an Attorney opinion on those options. Members also feel that the Commission or the members should write to the Governor regarding the issues with in-person quorums.

NHDES: TOWN OF BRISTOL

This was presented to the Commission previously and is all set.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

CATTERALL EASEMENT UPDATES

Ms. Goodwin advised the Commission that the property has been sold and she is recommending that a welcome letter be sent to the new owners. A discussion centered around what the welcome letter should include: welcome to the new owners, reminds them of the easement, is similar to the Society letter sent in the past and notes yearly monitoring by the Commission is required. Ms. Goodwin will create the letter.

BENNET WETLANDS

Ms. Goodwin did not have time to complete the research for this meeting, so this will be continued to the February meeting.

BROCHURE

Mr. Brown has submitted edits to the Commission for the brochure. Ms. Goodwin will have Ms. Thompson complete the edits and the brochure will be submitted for the February meeting.

COMMISSION MEMBER ITEMS

Mr. Moore and Ms. Goodwin presented information gathered on the Sewer to the Lake Project from the Planning Board meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for February 2, 2022, at 7:00pm.

With no other business before the Commission, R. Batchelder made a motion, second by J. Cote, to adjourn at 8:56 pm. The motion carried 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Christina Goodwin
Land Use Manager