



TOWN OF HUDSON

Conservation Commission



Ken Dickinson, Chairman

Marilyn McGrath, Selectmen Liaison

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DATE: December 14, 2015

MEETING MINUTES: Below is a listing of minutes for the Hudson Conservation Commission. Minutes are not a verbatim record of each meeting, but rather represent a summary of the discussion and actions taken at the meeting. All Conservation Commission meetings are televised live and repeated during the following week on HCTV, cable television channel 22. Official copies of the minutes are available to read and copy at the Town Engineer's Office during regular business hours (Monday through Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.).

Should you have any questions concerning these minutes or wish to see the original recording, please contact the Town Engineer's Office at 603-886-6008.

A regular meeting of the Hudson Conservation Commission (HCC) was held in the Community Development Conference Room of Town Hall.

Members of the Commission present: J. Battis, W. Collins, K. Dickinson, R. Matos and M. Tranfaglia

Members of the Commission absent: R. Brownrigg, excused

Member of Town Staff present: E. Dhima, excused

Board of Selectman Representative absent: Selectman Marilyn McGrath, excused

Seating of Alternates: None

Called to Order at 07:09 p.m.

As no members of the public were in attendance, no public input was presented or discussed.

Note: No audio for the first 1 minute 38 seconds of the meeting

I. OLD BUSINESS

Continuation of Wetlands Special Exception Application for Breckenridge Estates Subdivision a proposed 9 lot Open Space subdivision at 50 Spear Road. Reference Map 186, Lot 013 (Continued from the HCC meeting held November 9, 2015)

Luke Hurley, CWS from Gove Environmental and Mike Garrepy from Tuck Realty Corp. (applicant's representative) were back before the commission with a revised set of plans after the HCC site walk held November 22, 2015.

Mr. Hurley, CWS presented a narrative of the revised grading plans explaining the changes that were discussed during the property site walk. Mr. Hurley also reviewed types of seed mix that would be used during restoration along with the type of erosion control barrier. He said an effort would be made to keep the area as natural looking as possible. Mr. Hurley also discussed the footbridge that might be built along the backside of the property. He stated that there would be no permanent footings or impacts around the location of the bridge and that the bridge would be for use by future residence of the subdivision to allow access to the open space for recreational purposes.

Mr. Collins asked if the planned work within the wetland buffer was permanent or temporary. Mr. Garrepy explained that the work would be permanent and that the wording referring to the work as temporary would be changed.

Mr. Battis stated that during the sitewalk the location of the proposed forebay drainage structure relative to the house and driveway locations shown on the plan were discussed. Mr. Battis asked if the location of the forebay structure was properly located per the engineering requirements of the site.

Mr. Garrepy explained that the forebay and retention pond would be part of the infrastructure of the development. He further explained that the house and driveway locations were not fixed and that these items were shown on the plan for reference only.

Mr. Dickinson asked about the footbridge footing construction. He asked if the intent was to use existing ledge or boulders from the surrounding area as footing material to support the bridge.

Mr. Hurley answered that the bridge would be of simple construction and that no construction techniques would be used which would require additional permitting.

Mr. Dickinson asked if the commission members were ready to make a motion.

Motion is to recommend approval of the Wetlands Special Exception Application filed by Tuck Realty Corp. representing the proposed Breckenridge Estates Open Space Subdivision. This WSE is for a proposed permanent wetlands buffer impact of 17,650 square feet within proposed map 186: lots 13-1, 13-2 and 13-3 (Reference Grading, Drainage and Utility Plan, sheet 11 of 19, Drawing C4) with the following stipulations as noted.

1. Construction and restoration shall comply with: BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES TO CONTROL NON-POINT SOURCE POLLUTION: A GUIDE FOR CITIZENS AND TOWN OFFICIALS (NH Department of Environmental Services-Current Issue.)
2. During construction and restoration erosion control barriers shall be installed and maintained to the satisfaction of the Town Engineer.
3. All notes found on the Grading, Drainage and Utility Plan, sheet 11 of 19, drawing no. C4 and the Erosion and Sediment Control Details, sheet 19 of 19, drawing No. E1 of the construction plan set that pertain to alteration of terrain and storm water runoff will be strictly adhered to during all phases of construction.
4. Install approved “Do not cut/Do not disturb” Town conservation markers along the conservation district boundaries.
5. Change the current wording from “Temporary Wetlands Buffer Impact” to “Permanent Wetlands Buffer Impact” to better represent the project scope.
6. The proposed footbridge to facilitate a stream crossing to gain access to the “open space” behind future lot 13 and lot 13-6 of map 186 shall have no permanent footings installed and there shall be no permanent disturbance to the surrounding terrain.

Motion by: William Collins

Second by: James Battis

Vote: For: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0

Dissent Reason(s): None

II. NEW BUSINESS

Stewardship of Conserved Lands-Annual LCHIP Monitoring Reports

Mr. Battis gave a presentation concerning the LCHIP monitoring reports for the Musquash Conservation Land and the Ingersoll Property to the commission for review and discussion. Some of the items highlighted during the presentation were:

- a) Some ponding in some of the trail system.
- b) No Trespassing signs have been posted on town property near the Merrill Foundation by the abutting property owner on.
- c) New trail blazing along the Nash-Hamblett trail should be completed at some point.

- d) A causeway was being built by across Musquash Brook and some damage to a nearby beaver dam has taken place.

Mr. Battis suggested that any encroachments by abutting property owners should be referred to the Town of Hudson Code Enforcement Officer for further actions.

Mr. Matos asked if signage could be placed near that causeway and beaver dam which would let people know that the property is town owned.

Mr. Battis said he spoke with Steve Walker (DES LCHIP Steward). Mr. Walker suggested that a Conservation Management Plan be implemented to help with enforcement.

Mr. Collins asked if a similar plan could be implemented for the town forest. Mr. Battis said it would be relatively easy to write both plans at the same time.

Mr. Dickinson brought up the issue of broken trail marking posts and said the individual who made them would be replacing them in the spring.

Further items were discussed concerning the town owned conserved land at Musquash Pond and can be viewed on the HCTV website. (HCC meeting dated 12/14/15)

Mr. Battis gave a quick presentation of the status of the Ingersoll Property and was pleased with current condition of the property. He pointed out that only some minor dumping issues by abutters along Hopkins Drive were noted during the site walk and that the folks in charge of the stewardship would more than likely address the issue.

Mr. Dickinson asked if reinstalling the kiosk off of Griffin Road was advisable.

Mr. Battis said that it could but that the current signage would have to be edited to give credit to the LCHIP program for its support.

Motion to approve the Musquash Conservation Property and the Ingersoll Property annual stewardship monitoring reports for distribution to the appropriate state offices. And a referral to the current Town of Hudson code enforcement officer concerning encroachment issues of abutting property owners along the Musquash Conservation Property.

Motion by: James Battis

Second by: William Collins

Vote: For: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0

The chairman asked if there would be any interest in a possible work day at any of the town properties. Some ideas batted about where placement of the new trail map, reinstallation of the Ingersoll Property sign off of Griffin road and or trail maintenance at Musquash Pond.

Saturday Morning at 9:00 a.m. was set as a tentative meeting time to accomplish a few of the items discussed.

III. OTHER BUSINESS:

A. Kiosk and Trail Maps

Mr. Dickinson asked if the new Musquash Pond Trail Map was ready to be posted in the Kiosk. Mr. Battis answered that he would check with NRPC to see if was completed.

Mr. Dickinson showed the commission members a copy of signage used to display “rules of use” that could be hung at both the Town Forest and Musquash Pond Conserved Land. The commission members asked that the signage and wording be further reviewed possibly at the next meeting.

Mr. Battis said he had copy of the Conservation Plan for the town of Jaffrey. He said that the plan was fairly detailed and cross referenced allowed uses to the various NH RSA’s. He did emphasize that posting rules would have to be backed with some kind of enforcement.

B. Forestry Inventory

Discussion on a possible Forestry Inventory was mentioned but further planning was deferred to the January 2016 meeting.

Discussion on a site walk of some of the other town owned conserved land was deferred to the January 2016 meeting.

IV. FINANCIAL STATUS

The monthly financial report was reviewed. Some of the current balances were discussed but no outstanding issues were noted.

Robinson and Ottarnic Pond Reclamation Costs from 2002 to Present Report

Mr. Battis gave a short presentation as to the reports content which chronologically lists the cost of various methods used to control the invasive plant species at both Robinson Pond and Ottarnic Pond. It also showed the cost of water testing at the NH State labs.

Mr. Battis further explained that although the costs were expensive it was his understanding that the treatment schedule would start to subside allowing a capitol reserve fund to be instituted which in-turn would help defray costs in the future. Mr. Battis went on to ask that a motion be made by the commission which would allow him to forward the report on to the BOS for review.

Mr. Dickinson thanked Mr. Battis for his effort in generating the report and went on to say that he would try to schedule a presentation by representatives of AQUALOGIC within the first quarter of 2016

(Mr. Matos was excused from the meeting at 8:53 p.m.)

Motion to forward the Robinson and Ottarnic Pond Reclamation Cost Report to the BOS for review and discussion at the December 22, 2015 selectman meeting. Note: Mr. Battis will attend if needed to answer questions about the report.

Motion by: James Battis

Second by: William Collins

Vote: For: 4 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0

V. CORRESPONDENCE

A letter was sent to Mr. Mills in regards to a possible purchase of his property. Mr. Dickinson said that he would follow up on the letter shortly.

The chairman also said that the trail names currently waiting approvals was on the BOS meeting scheduled for December 22, 2015.

A letter from Kinder Morgan was reviewed and discussed. It was mentioned that a possible presentation by Kinder Morgan representatives could be arranged for an upcoming meeting.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Previous Conservation Commission minutes for October 19, 2015 and November 9, 2015 were submitted for approval.

Motion made to approve Conservation Commission meeting minutes held on the following date: October 19, 2015

Motion by: Mr. Battis
Seconded by: Mr. Tranfaglia

Vote: For: 4 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion made to approve Conservation Commission meeting minutes held on the following date: November 9, 2015

Motion by: Mr. Battis
Seconded by: Mr. Tranfaglia

Vote: For: 4 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0

VII. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Mr. Battis said that the NRPC recently held an informational meeting concerning eminent domain and the new pipe line being proposed. He stated that the path of the pipeline runs through the Ingersoll Property for which the Town of Hudson currently holds an easement on and he feels that KM representatives should be discussing any possible land issues with town officials. Mr. Battis also stated that the slide presentation that was shown during the NRPC meeting would be available for viewing.

Mr. Collins asked if meeting minutes could be sent to all members for input and editing. Mr. Dickinson asked if the minutes could be done a little earlier to allow for a longer review process. Mr. Collins said he would try.

Mr. Collins said he went out to the town forest to stain the kiosk and town forest sign. He also mentioned that he would like to contact the school about seeking some volunteers about a possible clean up.

Mr. Tranfaglia mentioned that the Sustainability Committee members maybe interested in participating in a cleanup and provided a point of contact to the commission.

Motion to adjourn:

Motion by: W. Collins
Seconded by: Mr. Tranfaglia

Vote: For: 4 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0

Meeting Adjourned at 09:30 p.m.



Ken Dickinson, Chairman