



TOWN OF HUDSON

Conservation Commission



William Collins, Chairman Dave Morin, Selectmen Liaison

12 School Street • Hudson, New Hampshire 03051 • Tel: 603-886-6008 • Fax: 603-816-1291

DATE: May 9, 2022

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.

In attendance = X Alternates Seated = S Partial Attendance = P Excused Absence = E

William Collins Ken Dickinson Bill Kallgren Brian Pinsonneault
Chairman X Vice-Chair X Member X Member E

Sandra Rumbaugh Carl Murphy Linda Krisciunas David Morin Elvis Dhima
Member X Alternate X Alternate X Selectman Rep X Town Rep X

- I. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRPERSON AT 07:00 P.M.
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- III. ROLL CALL
- IV. SEATING OF ALTERNATES: Mr. Murphy in place of Mr. Pinsonneault
- V. Public Input Related to Non-Agenda Items: None

VI. Old Business –

- A. Public Hearing for the Purchase of Land – 150R Kimball Hill Road.

Chairman Collins updated the commission on status of property having been sub-divided at the town line between Hudson and Pelham representing an approximate 28 acre parcel for Hudson and 25 acre parcel for Pelham. As a follow up to a walk previously held, Mr. Collins noted that some cleanup might be needed on the site.

Mr. Collins noted that the parcel in Pelham is landlocked and cannot be accessed from Pelham. It can be accessed from the Hudson Town Forest with both Commissions working on an agreement to allow Pelham residents access to the property.

Mr. Kallgren made a motion to spend \$150,000 USD from the Town of Hudson Conservation Fund to purchase the 28 acres.

Seconded by Ms. Rumbaugh

Motion Passed 5-0-0

VII. New Business

- A. Conditional Use Permit Eversource Energy ROW 326 Transmission Line Structure Replacement Project.**

At 7:08 Chairman Collins seated Ms. Krisciunas in place of Mr. Dickinson.

Chairman Collins recognized Mr. Kurt Nelson, Ms. Lydia Morton of Eversource and Ms. Lindsey White of GZA Geoenvironmental Inc. to present overview of the transmission line project.

Mr. Nelson highlighted that the project included replacement of eight utility poles in Hudson due to damage and deterioration due to the age of the structures. Mr. Nelson highlighted a number of temporary impacts such as crossing wetland areas and additionally noted that some polls were additionally selected for replacement as work would be performed on adjacent polls and pro-active replacement would minimize future wetlands disruption.

Ms. White provided some additional details on the wetlands and the team provided a review of the specific locations on maps indicating wetlands crossing areas, access plans and the specific areas of work.

Selectman Morin brought forth concerns that residents may have questions and concerns both on project and restoration details and wished to identify a resource at Eversource to respond to any questions or concerns.

Ms. Morton of Eversource indicated that she would be more than happy to be contact point to address questions and concerns that residents may have on this project and encouraged that residents should come forward if they do have questions.

Ms. Lydia Morton
Eversource
Office: 603-634-3707
Cell: 603-339-5434
Email: Lydia.morton@eversource.com.

Mr. Nelson noted that they planned to use existing access roads to the ROW and described the work sites as typically 100' x 100' with gravel backfill, followed by concrete. After establishment of the new structure, the work site would be reduced to a smaller size and graded back to conditions prior to start of work.

Mr. Nelson provide detail on timber mass being used in wetland crossing as a standard process to temporarily stabilize the areas, upon completion of the work, the timber mass would be removed allowing the wetlands to fully recover.

Mr. Dickinson had several questions regarding the wetlands, including depth and if helicopter work was anticipated. Mr. Nelson indicated max depth of approximately 3 feet but would be dependent on seasonal changes, no helicopter work was anticipated for this project.

Mr. Dhima inquired if the temporary timber mass required dredge and fill permit from the State. Mr. Nelson responded that the project falls in line with statutory modification permit option and is aligned with Army Core of Engineers best practices and clarified that the wetland impact is temporary, not permanent.

Mr. Collins inquired regarding threatened or endangered species and if a wildlife consultant would be on-site during construction. Mr. Nelson responded that Eversource would provide training to crews and that follow Fish and Game guidelines for best practices.

Mr. Collins inquired of the commission regarding possibility of site walk. Mr. Dickinson opined that he was comfortable with the project and encouraged if others felt a site walk necessary. Mr. Collins opined he as happy with the project.

Mr. Kallgren made a motion to recommend the project to the planning board with a note to reference the conditions on Sheet S1 of the project plans as part of that recommendation.

Mr. Dickinson seconded motion

Motion Passed 5-0-0

B. Conditional Use Permit for Frenette Gardens, 65 Central Street, Map 182, Lot 003-000

Mr. Collins recognized Pete Madsen and Paul Chisholm of Keach and Nordstrom Associates

representing the property owners who were also in attendance.

Mr. Madsen provided an overview of the project to sub-divide the property into ten lots for single-family housing development. The proposed project would include approximately 2240 sq.-ft. of permanent wetland buffer impacts divided into two areas. Area #1 would impact approximately 790 sq-ft for installation of a “level spreader” drainage outlet to mitigate erosion. Area #2 would include approximately 1452 sq-ft for connection to sewer to include installation of eight manhole covers.

Mr. Kallgren questioned if the wetland buffers impacts could be eliminated by moving those construction elements outside the zone, as the plans seemed to show plenty of space to perform this. Mr. Madsen noted that due to slope of the site, placement of Area #1 would result in unacceptable flow rates and possible erosion of the site. For Area #2, this impact is for connection to existing sewer, Mr. Kallgren noted that the sewer connection was not clear on the drawings and appreciated that clarification.

The applicant provided additional clarification on the design and functionality of infiltration system at the request of Mr. Dhima.

Ms. Rumbaugh inquired regarding the minimum buildable lot size and if the developer had plans for future development on the far side of First Brook. Mr. Dhima noted that the zone allows a minimum buildable lot size of 10K sq.-ft. Mr. Chisholm that due to First Brook, it would be difficult to develop the far side and no plans existed.

Mr. Murphy inquired about maintenance to the filtration system, which the developer indicated and expected lifetime of approximately 30 years, similar to the expected lifetime of the road. Mr. Dhima noted that the town’s Vacutruck would easily be able to suck debris out for periodic maintenance.

Ms. Krisciunas inquired regarding the existing houses on the plan that appear to show multiple homes, the developer indicated that there was one residential home, the additional are green houses and chicken coops which would remain.

Mr. Collins inquired about development on the backside of the property, which the developer indicated that in addition to crossing First Brook, the site has extensive slopes that would be difficult to develop and no plans existed.

Mr. Collins inquired if the property owners would be willing to put that backside property into a conservation easement, the developer will further discuss with the property owners.

A site walk is scheduled for Thursday May 12th at 6:30 PM. Mr. Kallgren noted that he had prior commitment.

VIII. Other Business

A - Volunteers – Old Home Days.

Mr. Collins reminded commission regarding Old Home Days with a number of members looking forward to volunteering. It was discussed to share booth again similar to last year and asked commissions to think of new ideas to attract and help educate community on our Conservation activities and properties.

B – NHACC – Email Opportunities

Mr. Collins encouraged opportunities to reach out to the office and subscribe to monthly newsletters and engage on additional resources available. Mr. Collins noted that fees or dues can be reimbursed and Mr. Dickinson reminded statewide conference which is typically held in November.

C – Sustainability Committee

Mr. Collins reported that the Sustainability Committee is hosting Eco Fest Event on May 21, 2022 at Rogers Memorial Library between 9:00 and 1:00.

D - Trail Work Day = May 14th Kimball Hill Road.

Mr. Collins, Ms. Rumbaugh, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Dickinson volunteered to participate in clean up and installation of trail signs at the Kimball Town Forest. Ms. Krisciunas and Mr. Kallgren volunteered for brush cutting and clean up at Musquash, with emphasis on working on clearing knotweed and cleaning up overgrown sheep pen.

Mr. Collins reported increased off road vehicle traffic and Selectman Morin reported that he had conversations with the Hudson Police Department who reported they are out on their “quads” with increased patrols.

IX. Financial Status

Current financial status shows a balance of \$748K USD with expectation of closing on the new property at 150R Kimball Hill Road at a cost of \$150K.

X. Correspondence

No Correspondence.

XI. Approval of Minutes

After a brief discussion regarding notes for CUP application for 3 Nathaniel, specifically details

on 4' sidewalk proposed, it was determined that no amendments were needed to the minutes as recorded. Ms. Rumbaugh made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dickinson, to Approve meeting minutes for April 11, 2022.

Motion carried 5-0-0

XII. Commissioner's Comments

Mr. Dickinson noted to be aware of poison ivy when hiking trails, and question if the Friary Housing project would result in land-use change assessment. Mr. Collins and Mr. Dhima noted that it would not.

Ms. Rumbaugh noted that May's full moon would be May 15-16, known as the Flower or Planting Moon, it will be totally eclipsed with a reddish hue.

Ms. Rumbaugh also noted when out hiking beware of poison ivy with the adage "Leaves of Three Let Them Be". It is not too late to enjoy a Mother's day hike with the entire family and Ms. Rumbaugh recommended (easiest to more difficult)

- Musquash – Hudson
- Beaver Brook – Hollis
- West Rattlesnake (Ctr. Sandwich)
- Mt. Major (Alton)
- Mt. Willard (Crawford Notch State Park)

Ms. Krisciunas inquired about different outreach to the community to encourage more volunteers, noting that we have several Facebook pages and Mr. Collins has a contact list when we need to seek volunteers for different projects.

Mr. Collins reviewed some informational handouts including wetland dredge and fill process, along with definitions and technical ratings for various types of wetlands. Mr. Collins noted that all wetlands, regardless of technical rating are still important to ecosystems.

Motion to adjourn:

Mr. Kallgren moved to adjourn tonight's meeting at 8:44p.m. Motion seconded by Mr. Dickinson. Motion Carried 5/0/0

Bill Kallgren

William Kallgren, HCC Clerk