



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: December 11, 2023

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 Chairman <u> X </u>	Carl Murphy Vice-Chair <u> X </u>	Ken Dickinson Clerk <u> X </u>	Brian Pinsonneault Member <u> E </u>
Sandra Rumbaugh Member <u> X </u>	Linda Krisciunas Alternate <u> E </u>	Open Seat Alternate <u> </u>	David Morin Selectman Rep <u> X </u>
			Elvis Dhima Town Rep <u> X </u>

CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRPERSON AT 07:00 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

SEATING OF ALTERNATES:

Public Input Related to Non-Agenda Items:

Bruce Gilday, CWS (BAG Consulting) representing Brox Industries provided a brief update on mitigation efforts with NHDES related to their proposed expansion project. Brox will be maintaining a 75 ft wetland buffer throughout their expansion project. The ARM fund in-lieu fee for mitigation will be

approximately \$250,000; therefore the HCC has been asked to identify a project that some of the in-lieu fee could be spent on versus another project outside of Town. Mr. Gilday mentioned that the 6 acre parcel that was offered earlier this year was rejected as a preservation parcel (no mitigation credit provided by NHDES); however, it will remain as a donated parcel to the Town of Hudson. Mr. Gilday asked the Commission for a recommendation letter stating that the parcel is of preservation value. Brox is looking to identify another parcel to purchase as directed by NH Fish and Game and NHDES potentially in the Musquash Conservation Area watershed area. After a discussion regarding other potential mitigation parcels, Chairman Collins said asked Mr. Gilday to be placed on our January agenda, as this subject should have gone through the normal process of notification.

I. New Business

a. Conditional Use Permit – 36 Campbello St.

David Jordan, PE of Greeman Pederson (GPI, Inc.) Salem, NH office representing Sousa Realty and Development Corp. presented an application for a conditional use permit request for a 10 lot subdivision on a 4 acre parcel (Map 165 Lot 49) abutting the Merrimack River. Mr. Jordan noted that a NHDES Shoreland Protection application is forthcoming. The parcel drains to the east away from the river. A stormwater infiltration basin is proposed within the wetland conservation district (wetland buffer only) on the east side of the property. Mr. Dickinson asked if the development was in the existing field and what was the prior usage? Mr. Jordan responded yes; it was a large private yard used for family activities. Mr. Murphy asked if it was a low salt use area, however Mr. Jordan did not have that information present. Mrs. Rumbaugh asked about the pipe sizing which applicant and the Town Engineer confirmed that it meets both current NHDES and Town of Hudson regulations. Mr. Collins asked if the cul-de-sac could be utilized for stormwater treatment. Mr. Jordan explained that the flatness of the property did not allow sufficient pipe cover to properly design a stormwater feature in the cul-de-sac. There was also some discussion regarding appropriate seed mixes within the proposed buffer area. Mr. Jordan confirmed that they are specifying both a New England wet seed mix exclusively within the basin itself and a temporary seed mix and other seed mixes elsewhere as noted. Mrs. Rumbaugh noted that the lot appeared to be overdeveloped and would rather see the proposed basin located outside the wetland buffer area. Mrs. Rumbaugh requested the following: 1) appropriate signage to be installed at 50 ft. offsets along the buffer perimeter. 2) plant shrubs and other appropriate native seed mixes along the slope of the proposed basin in addition to the typical loam and seed mix. Mr. Collins asked if a restoration plan could be prepared behind Lot #5 to which Mr. Jordan responded yes. He would also look at the drainage calculations to see if there was another drainage swale that could be designed to handle more stormwater runoff on-site into the secondary basin versus directing it into the adjacent wetland. Several other questions were asked during this discussion by both Mr. Collins and Mrs. Rumbaugh. A site walk was scheduled for Sat. Dec 15 at 9 AM.

II. Old Business

a. Conditional Use Permit Application – 78 Highland Street (Map 175 / Lot 19):

Steve Riker, CWS of Ambit Engineering, Inc. representing Ms. Christine Floyd, presented a request to remove 4300 SF of fill located in the adjacent wetland area found towards the rear of the property and restore 7848 SF of adjacent wetland buffer area. Mr. Riker pointed out his plan revisions which included specifying NE Wetland Plants “NE Erosion Control Restoration Mix” and additional

facultative native deciduous shrubs and white pine saplings along the proposed slope.

Mr. Collins noted that he prepared a draft motion for acceptance and provided several reasons to support his motion.

Mr. Dickinson moved to recommend approval of the Conditional Use Application filed on behalf of Rene P. Joyal and Christopher W. Floyd by representatives of Ambit Engineering, Inc. for the purpose of restoring 4,300 SF of wetlands and 7,848 SF of wetland buffer along the back of the property located at 78 Highland St., Map 175, Lot 019 with the following stipulations as noted below:

1. The applicant shall abide by and follow the scope of work approved by the NHDES Restoration Plan, including all stipulation imposed by said plan dated September 03, 2021. Reference: NHDES #2017-01662
2. During construction Restoration Control Barriers shall be installed and maintained to the satisfaction of the Town Engineer.
3. Futhermore, due to the limited on-site storage potential the HCC recommends that the matrials removed from the wetlands and be moved off-site to an appropriate disposal site.
4. Install approved "Don not cut/Do not disturb town conservation markers along the conservation district boundaries.
5. Install restoration plan per Sheet C3 dated 11/29/2023.

Motion seconded by Mr. Murphy.

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Motion Carried 4/0/0

A brief discussion followed regarding the restoration process, construction oversight, monitoring period, and final approval of the As-Built drawings.

III. Other Business

a. Game Camera Request at Parker Conservation Area:

Mrs. Rumbaugh requested permission to install a game camera at Parker Conservation Area. Other commissioners were generally in favor of the camera installation and Mr. Collins provided approval.

IV. Financial Status:

Chairman Collins noted that he would prefer to use a portion of the remaining Small Equipment line item for the purchase of additional trail signs and maintenance items associated with chainsaws. Mr. Dickinson noted that he has a contact that furnishes custom wood carved signs.

Conservation Fund Balance = \$774,717.

V. Correspondence:

Chairman Collins reviewed our monthly correspondence which included the following:

- a) Free Trees program
- b) NRPC Pedestrian Access monitoring program at Musquash Conservation Area

Trail maintenance planning at Musquash Conservation Area was also discussed. Trail work day reminder for December 16th to occur after our site walk to address wet areas along the Colburn Trail.

Mr. Dhima presented an update regarding two proposed engineering improvements at Robinson Pond to satisfy the required federal MS4 water quality/ stormwater treatment permit as follows:

Area #1: construct new boat launch and associated parking area with several new catch basins, paving and retaining wall.

Area #2: construct new parking area with impervious pavement and retaining wall at public beach area

VI. Approval of Minutes:

Mrs. Rumbaugh moved to accept both October 16, 2023 and November 13, 2023 regular meeting minutes; including November 13, 2023 non-public meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Murphy.

Motion Carried 4/0/0

VII. Commissioner's Comments:

Mrs. Rumbaugh noted that she had made an effort to contact other Town board members regarding the proposed wetland ordinance petitioned warrant article; however she did not receive any reply. Mrs. Rumbaugh requested those involved to subsequently contact her in effort to work together moving forward. Mrs. Rumbaugh confirmed that she has submitted her resignation from the Commission.

Selectman Morin, Chairman Collins, Mr. Murphy and Mr. Dickinson all thanked Mrs. Rumbaugh for her active service and duty for many years on the Commission.

Mr. Dickinson also thanked Mr. Dhima in his efforts to improve the Robinson Pond Recreation Area. He also mentioned that the new conservation area located off of Tiger Rd. could use some minor pruning and clean-up and remove tires from Ottarnic Pond Boat Launch Area and Rangers Town Forest.

Chairman Collins informed us that timber harvest work at Rangers Town Forest has been completed. Mr. Collins is coordinating more trail map revisions with Mr. Dhima and NRPC for approval next year.

VIII. Motion to adjourn:

Mrs. Rumbaugh moved to adjourn our regular meeting at 8:24 PM; seconded by Mr. Murphy.

Motion Carried 4/0/0

Ken Dickinson

Ken Dickinson, Clerk