

Milford Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes February 13 , 2020 7:00pm BOS Meeting Room

Members

John Yule (Alt), Acting Chair
Hub Seward
Audrey Fraizer
Excused: Andy Hughes, Chair; Kim Rimalover, VChair; Janet Urquhart David Bosquet, Anita Stevens

Town Representatives

Guests

Chris Guida, Fieldstone Land Cons.

Appointment: M48L78 Wetland Permit Application for a driveway crossing. Presented by Chris Guida of Fieldstone Land Consultants. The members reviewed a minimum expedited wetland permit application for a driveway crossing accessing M48L78 from Emerson Road. The wetland and buffer are associated with a drainage/intermittent stream that runs through an animal pasture. The low-functioning wetland has been classified as a palustrine ditched meadow wetland; defying easy classification due to the characteristics and uses of the wetland. There will be a 500sq.ft temporary impact and leaves a 500 sq.ft permanent impact with the installation of a 24" culvert. There will be no riprap as DES is less supportive of this construction method. The riprap seems to accelerate scouring of the bottom and banks of the channel. This project is for a single-family driveway crossing of a low-functioning wetland on a relatively flat site. Audrey made a motion which was seconded by Rodney, to approve this wetland permit application. It was unanimously approved. John signed the permit application, enabling an expedited review process at NH DES.

There was a lengthy discussion to determine whether or not this application needs to be reviewed by the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA). There is an estimated 1200sq.ft of buffer impact. The wetlands ordinance leaves room for interpretation as to whether this meets the criteria for ZBA review. CGuida recommended that staff and land use boards meet to determine how this ordinance will be interpreted in future cases.

Item	Discussion	Who Will Do What
1. Trail Promotion videos contest	Tabled until the March meeting	
2. Meeting Minutes approval	The January 9 meeting minutes were unanimously approved on a motion by Rodney, seconded by John	
3. 4 th Saturday hike	a. January 25 – SRT East – Chris reported 10 hikers attended. Several birds were observed. The group hiked to the terminus behind the greenhouses on North River Road and back. b. Feb 22 – Souhegan River Trail West. Need a leader. c. March 28 -Mile Slip Town Forest. Audrey will lead the hike d. April 25 or May2 – SRT West for the annual birding hike	
4. Missing boundary markers at Mayflower Hill TF	There are several missing boundary markers at Mayflower/Patch Hill Town Forest. The members discussed the replacement of these markers. Members raised questions: 1) which six monuments are referenced in the \$2900 quote; 2) what will be used for the replacement Monumentation; 3) what is the cost to replace all the missing monuments; 4) are some of the missing monuments drill holes?	Chris to contact New England Forestry Consultants for answers
5. Reports	BOSCE (Brox Open Space Conservation Easement). No movement forward as the town awaits decisions that need to be made at NH DES. Audrey will contact Betsy McNaughten, the NH F&G biologist who is managing the conservation easement process for the open space at Brox, to see what progress has been made on a draft easement for the MCC to review.	Audrey will contact Betsy McNaughten to determine progress on the BOSCE draft

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	Forest Management Plans updating project – Tucker Brook. Work session scheduled for March 19, 2020 to discuss timbering options at Tucker Brook.	
	Armory Rd /Rail Trail crossing. The members are awaiting the results of the March vote to determine if the town will fund the match funds for the awarded CMAQ (Congestion Mitigation Air Quality) grant which includes this crossing in the project.	
	Melendy Rd tunnel grant. The members discussed the quotes from two suppliers of the underpass box culvert. Several items need clarification: 1) what is a curb wall, which is included in the Michie (M) quote but not in the Concrete Systems (CS) quote? 2) M has an additional charge for field assembly assistance – what about CS? 3) stamped plans from CS as stated in quote from M? 4) HS loading 25 in M quote is unspecified in CS; 5) verify that CS includes a delivery charge? 6) CS pick is 15.6 tons and M's pick is 18 tons. Explain the differential 7) members would like to see an updated second page of construction details corrected to reflect the information that Chris received via phone calls.	
	Open subdivisions Falcon Ridge – Monumentation of lots Spaulding – Monumentation and easement of the open space	
	Deliberative Session. John, Andy, Hub and Chris attended. The MCC decided to offer an amendment to the Land Fund warrant article request of \$20K to \$50K. The increase was to cover the costs for the stewardship fund for the Conservation Easement which will be placed on the open space at Brox Community Land parcel. It was asked for because the item was removed from the Town Budget before the 2020 Deliberative Session. We missed achieving the amendment by 2 votes. Next time we plan to make an amendment, we need to have all members present to support the request.	
6. Upcoming Events	March 10 – Voting Day. Chris will be available to staff the display all day. Audrey in the morning; Andy in the afternoon. Rod may be able to manage a couple of hours. April 7 – NH F&G program about Wildlife/People friendly trails 7:00pm in the Town Hall Auditorium	Chris will have the updated display board and a canopy for voting day
7. Interdepartmental Review	M43L61 Ponemah Pines subdivision. Comments: 1) invasives inventory and management during site work and reclamation; 2) site visit; 3) consider nesting periods of wildlife that might be present; 4) mitigation of the vegetation that is being removed M53L67-2&3 Utopia Federal Hill Vita Vikunas. No comments	

Comment [B1]: Re-write as questions

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Next Regular Meeting – March 14, 2020 @ 7PM, Selectmen's Meeting Room.

2020 Meeting Dates: Feb14. Mar 14. Apr 11. May 9. June 13. Jul 11. Aug 8. Sept 12. Oct 10. Nov 14. Dec 12

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