

Milford Conservation Commission June 9 2022 Meeting Minutes 7:00pm Milford BOS Meeting Room

Present: Members

John Yule, Chair

Andy Hughes, Vice Chair

Anita Stevens

Marie Nickerson

Rodney Dellafelice

Excused:, Kim Rimalover, Andy Seale

Town Representatives

Laura Dudziak, BOS rep – excused

Chris Costantino (Alt)

Leo Lessard, DPW Director

Guests

Matt Petersen, Keach-Nordstrom Engineering

Tom Muller – developer

Nick Muller - developer

Appointments :

7:00 > Map 43Lot 69 Stoneyard Drive apartments conceptual meeting. Matt Petersen of Keach-Nordstrom Engineering presented the conceptual plan to build 216 garden-style apartments at the end of Stoneyard Drive, located just north of the Route 101 Bypass/Rt 13 intersection. The applicant is using the existing woods road which will minimize the wetland and associated buffer impacts. They are estimating that there may not be a wetland impact and buffer impacts less than 4,000 sqft impact. The wetlands were mapped in Spring 2022. They are requesting a height variance which will give them the number of units that they want plus incorporate basement level parking. This design idea will reduce the amount of impervious impact and reduce the potential for wetland/buffer impacts with increased outdoor parking. A site walk is scheduled for Monday, June27, at 6:30 PM.

Discussion:

Item	Discussion	Who Will Do What
1. Meeting Minutes approval	The May 2022 meeting minutes, as amended, were unanimously approved by the members on a motion by AndyH and seconded by Anita	Chris to change the header from Agenda to Minutes.
2. 4 th Saturday hike	May 21 – Souhegan River Trail East was led by Rich Demidio. Rich enjoyed leading this hike and took several photos. June 25 – Hitchiner. Chris will lead the hike to start at 8:30am	
3. Beaver management plan	The members discussed the impact of beaver activity throughout the town, including town infrastructure in MVC Eyecare stormwater management structures. Leo Lessard, DPW Director reported that town infrastructure is being impacted, including flooding into abutting properties. The members had read and discussed the Town of Merrimack Beaver Management Policy as a possible template for a similar Milford document. Chris would like to find volunteers to assist in gradual water level reductions at both the beaver impoundment, known as Heron Pond, and at the Dickerman culvert at the southern end of the Granite Town Rail Trail. Both sites are locations of beaver flow devices that are under water at this time. The purpose of the Beaver Management Policy would be to inform the public that our primary objective is to provide a suitable habitat that will sustain a healthy beaver population while not encroaching on town or private interests. One of the goals of beaver management policy would guide water levels in impoundments so that regular monitoring of beaver flow devices is	

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	possible. Chris used GIS data to demonstrate what the Heron Pond impoundment looked like in 2012 when it was approximately a 20-acre impoundment. Currently it is a 30-acre impoundment. The members are generally in agreement of adopting something very similar to the Merrimack Beaver Management Policy. There will be a work session in July to further discuss this. Anita had several comments regarding: 1) professional guidance in setting water levels, 2) responsibility for payment of beaver flow devices, and 3) responsibility for maintenance of the beaver flow devices. Leo read the document as well and thought it a worthy example for Milford to use and adopt.	
4. Wildlife cohort program	‘Taking Action for Wildlife’ (an NHACC program] which is “An in-depth training program and hands-on project work . Get the tools you need to engage your community in on-the-ground actions to protect wildlife and habitats, while gaining the camaraderie of a cohort of fellow community volunteers from other communities.” The members applied for this grant in 2021 which was rejected. None of the members are interested in investing in the application process when there is little hope for an award.	AndyH will contact UNH Cooperative to ascertain whether the award process is as competitive as it was last year. The answer may drive members to decide to submit a 2022 application.
5. Souhegan Valley Boys and Girls Club easement (SVBGC)	Review latest documents regarding the revised conservation easement on the Boys and Girls club property. The members had several comments and questions, particularly the new section regarding the Scenic Easement.	Chris will inform Tom Quinn, the SVBGC attorney, of the MCC concerns
6. Reports	BOSCE (Brox Open Space Conservation Easement. Town Forests: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tucker Brook TF – Post-Harvest visit scheduled for September 24th in our 4th Saturday hike series • Mile Slip early successional habitat restoration around the parking area. Chris met with Eric Radlof, our Professional Forester, who guides our management of the town forest. He will provide an estimate for brontosaurus work to clear an approximately 8-acre meadow/early successional habitat around the parking area. The members are encouraged to reread the Mile Slip Town Forest Management Plan, which is due for an update in another 3 years. 	
	Elm Trees on Elm Street – Lincoln, Chris and Marie walked the location and determined that there is sufficient room for the Widmer donated elm trees. Marie and Anita talked to John of Amherst Gardens, the current home of the elm trees. John is content to retain custody of the trees until we can finalize the location for them. Chris and Lincoln Daley, Milford Community Development Director, met with EPA and NH DES staff as well as the engineer who designed the cap for the superfund site. All agencies were ok with the idea of landscaping the area around the cap and would like to have an updated landscape plan that shows where water and electricity structures will be placed. There are several vested parties in this section of	Action items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lincoln will contact the Keyes Stage and Park committee and other vested parties. This includes Gerry Guthrie, landscape architect who has designed the landscape for this area.

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	Keyes Field, all of whom need to be part of this next phase of development. Lincoln is managing these various parties.	
	Wetland Overlay District update – keep on agenda to remember to revisit this with the PB/ZBA in April 2023	
	Armory Rd /Rail Trail crossing – nothing new to report	
	Joint Land Use Committee –	
	Open subdivisions – place holders to check for changes Falcon Ridge – Monumentation of lots. Spaulding – Monumentation and easement of the open space No changes in status for either since last mtg	
	Brookstone Conservation Easement.	
7. Work session	July work session on July 28 at 6:00PM	
8. Interdepartmental Review.	Map6Lot14 – Self Storage unit on Wilton Rd. No comment. This site is heavily impacted already. Map42 Lot47 – Chappell subdivision plan. The wetland delineation is quite old and should be updated before any further expansion of the business occurs. Eversource Utility Road work on Scenic Savage and Mason Roads. No comment	
9. Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 9:20.	

Next Regular Meeting – July 14, 2022 @ 7PM. NOTE: This will be an in-person in the Selectmen's Meeting Room. Virtual (remote) access will still be available via Zoom. Access details will be included on that meeting's posted Agenda

2022 Meeting Dates: Jan 13. Feb 10. Mar 10. Apr 14. May 12. June 9, Jul 14. Aug 11. Sept 8. Oct 13. Nov 10. Dec 8