

**Town of Chester
Conservation Commission
July 10, 2018
7:00 PM
Approved Minutes**

Present:

Chairman Chuck Myette
Ted Broadwater @ 7:11 pm
Aaron Hume
Deb Munson
Kristina Snyder
Victor Chouinard
Kathleen Neff Ragsdale

Absent:

Selectmen Liaison Joseph Hagan
Baron Richardson

Guests:

Theodore Ian MacLean
Nicholas MacLean
Kevin Scott
Elizabeth LaRocca
Matt Flanders
Sherri Trefry
Ryan Fredette
Andrew Hadik

Call to Order:

Chairman Myette called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Chairman Myette directed that the active alternates would be Kristina Snyder and Victor Chouinard.

New Business

1. Eversource Structure Replacement

Ms. Trefry from Eversource summarized their project and their efforts to minimize impact on adjacent wetlands. The goal of the project is the replacement of aged wooden h-frame structures with steel. Ms. Trefry handed out copies of the map sets and identified designated wetlands shown in yellow and areas requiring upland timber matting shown in orange which would allow vehicles and equipment to cross with minimal impact.

Mr. Fredette added that the poles will be one foot higher, at 70' set 9' in the ground. The drill crew will dig and prep the holes. The line crew will set and attach circuits to the new structure.

Chairman Myette asked if they had applied for a wetland permit. Ms. Trefry responded. that it was reviewed by DES in June, set for approval in August with Condition Use Permit filed with Chester which would ask for a letter from the Conservation Commission directed to the Planning Board of its opinion. Mr. Hadik explained the Condition Use Permit approval process.

Chairman Myette asked about crossing Exeter River which was his focused area of concern. They could come in from either side or possible cross it, which was not desirable as it would have the most impact. Mr. Fredette advised that the river was shallow and easier to cross and opined that it would be less impact than making roads.

Mr. Hadik stated that as a taxpayer he would prefer having that heavy equipment entering and exiting the state roadways.

Mr. Broadwater asked about signs to discourage trespassing and motorized vehicles such as ATVs which were not allowed.

Chairman Myette stated that he would sent the letter to Mr. Hadik for both projects.

Mr. Hadik, Elizabeth LaRocca, Matt Flanders, Sherri Trefry and Ryan Fredette departed the meeting at 7:26 pm.

Non-Public Sessions (2) pursuant to RSA 91A:3(ii)(d) acquisition of real estate

By Roll Call, Chairman Myette motioned to go into non-public session pursuant to 91A:3(ii)(d) acquisition of real estate. Mr. Broadwater seconded his motion, with all in favor, so moved.

The meeting room was closed to the public at 7:26 pm.

The meeting room was reopened to the public at 8:07 pm.

Chairman Myette motioned to seal the non-public minutes indefinitely. Mr. Broadwater seconded his motion, with all in favor, so moved.

Chairman Myette motioned to go into non-public session pursuant to 91A:3(ii)(d) acquisition of real estate. Mr. Broadwater seconded his motion, with all in favor, so moved.

The meeting room was closed to the public at 8:10 pm.

The meeting room was reopened to the public at 8:55 pm

Chairman Myette motioned to seal the non-public minutes indefinitely. Mr. Broadwater seconded his motion, with all in favor, so moved.

Old Business

1. Review of Minutes June 2018

Ms. Munson recommended correction of typo, replace the word “ever with every” and Mr. Hume recommended removing the statement about the cost of the class at Line 135.

Mrs. Ragsdale motioned to accept the minutes as amended. Mr. Hume seconded her motion. With Chairman Myette abstaining due to absence from that meeting, Mr. Broadwater, Mr. Hume, Ms. Munson, Ms. Snyder, Mr. Chouinard and Ms. Ragsdale voted in favor, so moved.

Treasurer's Report (Chuck)

Chairman Myette reported a balance of

\$ 56,703.33 in the Conservation account, not including the \$500,000 c/d.

40,395.51 in the Forestry account

3,029.02 in the Lincoln Lane account; and

10,000.00 for annual monitoring of the Emerson Subdivision

Chairman Myette reported that the budget for the new fiscal period beginning July 1 was the same with nothing spent so far.

Ms. Ragsdale asked how accessible the c/d was. Chairman Myette advised that worst-case scenario 90 days. Mr. Chouinard added or pay penalty.

Mr. Chouinard motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report as stated. Ms. Munson seconded his motion, with all in favor, so moved.

Subcommittee Reports:

Strategic Land Protection Committee

Trails (Aaron)

Mr. Hume advised that he had a few places left to survey and passed out a handout of some maps that he had completed. Chairman Myette recommended adding a title block, for example, "Wason Pond & Vicinity" and "Spring Hill Farm." Ms. Ragsdale recommended naming the bodies of water. Chairman Myette advised that it would be good to have for the Fall Fair in October and to put the maps on the Town webpage.

Spring Hill Farm & Advisory Committee (Chuck)

Chairman Myette advised the Charmingfare Farm had contracted to hay the fields for \$500.

There will be a Fall Festival at the Farm on Saturday, October 13th. Ms. Ragsdale recommended asking Brian from BK Electric to display some of his wildlife photographs.

Agricultural Commission

Chairman Myette advised that the Agricultural Commission had presented a Foodscaping Class at the Farm and the landscaping that was done by Mrs. LeBlanc looks very pretty.

The Town Fair will be coming up in September and Chairman Myette urged the Board to consider presenting something.

Wason Pond Conservation Area

Chairman Myette advised that the PD had hired a part-time Park Ranger who will be present in the afternoons, especially on the weekends.

Easements, Monitoring & Stewardship – Tabled

Chairman Myette advised that Mr. Hadik had done an excellent job of putting together the spreadsheet.

Miscellaneous – Officers

Chairman Myette urged the Board to consider serving as Chairman or Treasurer.

Workshops – (Deb)

Ms. Munson reported that she and Ms. Snyder had attended a wetland walk workshop in East Kingston. Ms. Munson advised that they had two acres donated which people were able to use for studies.

Ms. Munson presented a brochure concerning the Granite Bridge project Natural Gas Pipeline adjacent 101 from Epping to Manchester for those who were interested. Chairman Myette asked if it were going through Chester and Ms. Munson stated that she did not believe so.

Next Meeting: August 14, 2018

Adjournment

Mr. Chouinard motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:37 pm. Ms. Ragsdale seconded her motion, with all in favor, so moved.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy J. Hoijer
Recording Secretary