



OLD VALUES - NEW HORIZONS

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

3 No Lowell Rd, Windham, New Hampshire 03087

(603) 432 -3806 / Fax (603) 432-7362

www.windhamnh.gov

Thursday January 28, 2016
7:30pm @ Community Development Department
Approved Minutes

Attendance

Chairman Wayne Morris-present
Vice-Chair James Finn-present
Pam Skinner-present
Lisa Ferissi-present
Justin Pare-present
Jason Rodgers, alternate-present
Dave Curto, alternate-excused

Meeting Minutes Review/Approve January 14, 2016

Mr. Finn made a motion to approve the minutes for January 14th, 2016. Seconded by Ms. Ferissi. Vote 4-0-1. Ms. Skinner abstained.

Discussion

- Campbell Farm Subcommittee

A motion was made by Mr. Finn to follow up with the prior members of the Campbell Farm Subcommittee to see if they were still interested in continuing to be a part of the Committee (that was disbanded in December). Seconded by Ms. Skinner.

Vote 5-0.

Motion passes.

- Opposing bobcat season

The Stoddard Conservation Commission wrote a letter asking the Windham Conservation Commission to join them in signing a letter opposing the bobcat hunting season. NH Fish and Game is interested in allowing a "limited bobcat season" proposal that would be effective for those seeking to hunt and trap bobcat. The deadline to oppose in writing would be February 10th. 2016

A motion was made by Mr. Finn to sign the letter attached opposing the bobcat season. Seconded by Ms. Skinner (for discussion).

There was discussion regarding the methods with which it was appropriate to take the bobcats and the timelines when certain methods would be permitted. Bobcats are on the threatened list; they are no longer on the endangered list. Mr. Rodgers did not think it was the place of the Board to oppose the recommendations of NH Fish and Game. Mr. Pare stated that all surrounding states do currently have a bobcat season.

Vote 5-0.

Motion passes.

Technical Review Committee (TRC) January 26th No Cases

Planning Board February 3rd

- **Case# 2015-34 / Preliminary Major Site Plan / Design Review Major Subdivision/ Simpson's Crossing/ Continued from 1/16/2016**

There are new additions and addendums to the plans. The Commission is requesting additional time to review the application when considering the Christmas and New Year holidays. The 55+ housing development is being proposed on a 32 acre plot with 37 units. There are two wetlands crossings and they are proposing two Dredge and Fill Permits and two boxed culverts. The proposal would take the drainage down to a one acre pond. There is no drainage study and no road profiles. There is a site walk on Saturday on this project.

After the initial overview of the project, Chairman Morris recused himself as President of the Rock Pond Improvement Association.

Hence, Mr. Morris then addressed the Board as the President of the Rock Pond Improvement Association. The Association has hired a consultant, Mr. Tom Ballestero who then addressed the Board. The Association feels as if more rain gardens and sub surface gravel wetlands would improve Rock Pond rather than the conventional solutions set forth in the plan.

Also, there are limited places to push the snow. That may lead to a pollutant source. The safe removal of phosphorus was also discussed. Wider culverts are ideal for "aquatic organism passage", thus, the Association would like to see the width of the culverts to be sure they are appropriate.

Norm Young, 1 Jordan Road addressed the Board. Mr. Young is concerned about a plan design that can accommodate the larger storms that may occur over time. The 100 and 50 year flood plans accommodate more than the 1 inch storm/rainfall that is typical in this area of the country.

The recommendation by the developer is to have individual septic systems. The Association is recommending a community leech field if possible.

There was further discussion of culverts. "Rip Wrap" was also discussed as part of the solution to help wildlife. There was also discussion as to how large the culvert would be and the best way to install a 4 or 6 foot boxed culvert.

The proposal by the Association for drainage is "Curve and Gutter" along Emerson Road. Green infrastructure does not use all those pipes and is typically 10-20% cheaper than other more typical structures.

Mr. Pare asked when the revised plans would be submitted to the Board. He asked how the Board could comment on the revised plans if those plans were not available to the Board and would likely not be prior to February 3rd Planning Board meeting.

Also, there are wetlands flow that will be mitigated with a bottomless boxed culverts; there are other projects in town that were cited as well.

Mr. Mike Furey, 27 Emerson Road addressed the Board. There is already a very steady flow of water that travels through the boxed culverts in the springtime. The resident stated that this flow lasts for months, not weeks.

Mr. Rodgers asked if the developer met all the town criteria regarding setbacks and other planning needs.

The Board would like to see a closed-in bottomless culvert as well as a culvert below Emerson Road. The Conservation Commission does not believe the Planning Board will vote definitively when the case is first heard. The Dredge and Fill permit has been allowed, yet, the Planning Board is still asking for comments which the Board has provided.

ZBA – February 9th & February 23rd

- **Case # 1-2016**, lot 21-Z-268, 25A Cobbetts Pond Road-raise existing and construct new dwelling

The applicant would like to raze the existing home and garages and build a new home with an improved septic system; the home will also have a new well. There was some discussion regarding the exact location of the structure as the lot, but not the home, is visible from the road as you drive by. The setback will be 35 ft. from the high water mark of the pond. The Board discussed how many of the lots in the area have been improved in similar ways to the proposal.

The Plan that the Board has does not have the original plan; they only have the proposed plan; they did not receive a current conditions plan. The “before and after” of the plot would be helpful to see for this and future plan reviews.

- **Case # 46-2015**, lot 13-C-123, 15 Roulston Road, open space sub-division
- **Case # 47-2015**, lot 13-C-123, 15 Roulston Road, open space sub-division not meeting soils
- **Case # 48-2015**, lot 13-C-123, 15 Roulston Road, sub-division for 10 apartments

The plan was viewed by the Board. The house lot that abuts the Rail Trail can accommodate a house but requires a large driveway to be accessible, hence, a driveway is being proposed. The lot would be incorporated into the development. The plan says that the existing uses would be discontinued and that there is a variance request to subdivide.

The Conservation Commission cannot give an educated opinion on what is proposed without more information from the applicant.

DES Permits & Correspondence

Misc. Items

Elizabeth Wood wrote a letter to the Conservation Commission regarding Chadwick Place (Lot 17I-300) on Range Road on January 22nd, 2016. Preliminary Review was ended due to a time constraint. The Conservation Commission will have an opportunity to comment during Final Design Review. There is still some question as to where the WWPD is on the property.

The Conservation Commission would like to be at the Planning Board meeting when this design is presented once again.

NH Preservation Alliance sent a letter that the Board members have all had a chance to review.

A motion was made by Ms. Skinner to adjourn the meeting at 8:57pm. Seconded by Mr. Pare.

Vote 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:57pm.

Next Meeting: February 11, 2016
Agenda items and order may be modified at the discretion of the Commission