

Conservation Commission
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
March 9, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sarah Childs
Kevin Dodds
Angela Ficco
Scott Orzechowski
Jeremy Rhodes
Dale Smith-Kenyon

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jeremy Degler

STAFF PRESENT: Michelle Mears

The meeting was called to order by S. Orzechowski at 6:02 pm.

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes.

Regular meeting of 2/9/2022

Notes/Corrections:

- 3.B.Pg3.Para3: Note twice/yr
- 3.B.Pg3.Para3: replace 'leafing' with 'leading'
- 3.B.Pg4.Para1: Correct second to D. Smith-Kenyon
- 3.A.Pg2.Para1: 108 refers to Rt. 108 in all cases.
- 3.B.Pg3.Para6: replace 'precious' with 'previous'
- 3.C.Pg4.Para3: Note fencing is placed to protect tree roots.
- 3.D.Pg5.Para1: Note that the commission is cosponsoring this event.
- 3.D.Pg5.Para2: Add – US Fish & Wildlife is exploring purchase of the farm to add to the reserve; S. Orzechowski was part of the referenced call as well.
- 3.D.Pg5.Para3: Replace 'Elaine' with 'Elaina'
- All references to S. Eckstein/Sarah Eckstein – replace with S. Childs/Sarah Childs – name change (marriage – congratulations!)

D. Smith-Kenyon moves to approve, A. Ficco seconds. Motion Carries 5-0-1 (Ficco)

2. Public Comment

None at this meeting.

3. New Business

- A. Palmer Gas and Oil is seeking a Conditional Use Permit for impact to the Woodland Buffer to allow propane tank inventory storage and stormwater treatment area associated with a site development on a property located at 73 Gator Rock Road, in the Industrial (I) District, Assessor's Map 47 Lots 1H, 1I, 1J, & 1K, CUP#04-2022

Bob Stowell of Tritech Engineering presents for the applicant. This is an expansion of an existing project. All previously approved work is complete, and the applicant is looking to expand their operations on the site to include additional tanks, truck parking and service, and some office space.

Tree cutting is minimal, and will primarily occur in currently disturbed area with scrub/pioneer species. Approximately 5000 sq feet area of older growth will be involved. All materials stored on site for distribution will be gaseous phase at STP; all oil developed as part of service activities not captured during work would enter a closed system oil trap, not permitting infiltration. The capacity of the closed system is 3000 gallons; cleanout would be moved off site. Snow storage would be placed to direct melt to the forebays; these areas would be the old cul-de-sac and uphill of the current propane tanks.

Invasives on site would be mulched and reused as part of erosion control, limiting possibility of off-site transfer. Pavement milled will travel offsite for recycling.

The landscape plan was not included in the distributed packets, and was not presented at the meeting; the commission expressed a desire that plants used be on our approved natives list.

J. Rhodes moved to recommend the planning board grant the CUP as requested with the following stipulations:

- That all disturbed vegetation remain on site to reduce risk of invasive species spread, and:
- That all species included in the landscape plan be on the city's recommended natives list.

D. Smith-Kenyon seconds.

Motion Carries 6-0-0

B. Any correspondence

K. Dodds will get Malley Farm markers from Planning Director's office.

C. Any new business to come before the Commission

One item raised: National Guard could provide service project labor for installation of bridge and water bar improvements in Malley Farm; city would need to provide the materials. These could be grant funded. Primary location would be the stream past the softball field. A. Ficco will open discussion with the guard.

4. Old Business

A. Easement monitoring

i. Update on Medical Mile

1. Code Enforcement
2. Removal of refuse

No Update at this time

B. Marking Lily Pond conservation boundaries

M. Mears is working with SRPC on this item.

C. Any Correspondence

None

D. Getting map coordinates for easement monitoring

No updates at this time.

E. MEMBER ITEMS, SUB-COMMITTEE ITEMS, AND REPORTS

- i. Update on Malley Farm Cottontail Release Planning
Heidi Holman has informed us she won't have sufficient rabbits for a spring release; we're on the list for a potential late summer/early fall release.
- ii. Lily Pond wildlife management plan
No Update; S. Orzechowski is working on this item.
- iii. Invasives plan sub-committee report
D. Smith-Kenyon met with UNH Cooperative Extension regarding this item and received webinar information. Durham's plan could be a good model for ours. Forest Management will be needed as well; D. Smith-Kenyon to continue investigations.
- iv. Prime wetlands and vernal pool identification
S. Orzechowski, J. Degler, and K. Dodds are collaborating on this item. Working on determining guidelines; Council approval will be required for final determination. Focus will be on public land, with particular attention to contiguous terrain and match to NRI. UNH is a potential resource.
- v. UNH Cooperative Extension collaboration for shrub ID walks
First walk scheduled for 3/17; interest is very strong and more will potentially be scheduled.

F. Any other old business that may come before the Commission

None at this time.

5. Treasurer's Report

Current Balance is \$188,621.58
Grants received of \$29,576.38
Balance Forward of \$159,042.78
Interest of \$2.50

S. Orzechowski to discuss funding sources with Mayor/Council.

6. Sustainability committee report

Committee is finalizing framework for decision impact, with next meeting scheduled for 3/17. The committee is working with Bill Rodgers on climate initiative for Q1 2022, with plans to hold an initiative each quarter. Climate change report being presents 3/14 at the state level; presentation is open to the public but registration is required.

A. Ficco moves to adjourn, D. Smith-Kenyon seconds. Approved 6-0-0

Meeting adjourned at 7:01PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Jeremy Rhodes

Conservation Commission Secretary

Proud past, bright future