

Somersworth Conservation Commission
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
July 13 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Angela Ficco
Sarah Childs
Jeremy Degler
Kevin Dodds
Scott Orzechowski
Jeremy Rhodes

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dale Smith-Kenyon

STAFF PRESENT: Michelle Mears

The meeting was called to order by S. Orzechowski at 6:05 pm.

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes.

Notes/Corrections:

- New Business 3A, paragraph 2: SRTC should read SRPC.
- 3A, paragraph 3: strike g
- 4C, paragraph 6: replace firest with first
- Page 3, sentence 2: Should read 'first priority'

A. Ficco moves to approve, S. Childs seconds. Motion Carries 5-0-1 (J. Degler)

2. Public Comment

None at this meeting.

3. New Business

A. Tammy Desrosiers is seeking a Conditional Use Permit to reconstruct drainage along a property located at 14 Westman Street within the Residential Single Family (R1) District, Assessors Map 25 Lot 48C, CUP#08-2022

The applicant's engineer, Scott Lawler, presents. Existing site work was undertaken prior to wetland designation. The Flynn St side has wetland; this is the factor in the plan as presented. The home's foundation is approximately 5 feet away from a 7-12 foot deep ravine. In response to S. Orzechowski's questioning regarding change in depth of ravine, the presenter states that there's no record of such, although there is sign of erosion such as exposed tree roots. The CUP is sought as the entirety of the lot is within the buffer.

Changes proposed are:

- Add a drain with manhole access.
- Add perforated corrugated plastic drainage pipe
- Extend the current outflow
- Add riprap to break up the outflow and prevent future erosion

Easements are in place for this and adjoining property to allow DPW maintenance. Total impact is 730 sqft of permanent impact, as well as an additional 70 sqft of temporary impact.

This includes infill to allow safe access to the side of the house and correct a dangerous condition where erosion threatens the foundation. The slope of the fill will be set at 3:1.

The city engineer and planning director have cleared the plan; the infrastructure will be transferred to DPW on completion. A formal easement is requested and will be filed. Plantings will be placed on all disturbed surfaces; the commission recommends native plantings from the city list. The undermined tree will need to be removed; water outflow rate will be less than the current structure. Fill used on site will be clean and pesticide/herbicide use will be minimized.

J. Degler moves that the request for CUP be forwarded to the Planning Board with a recommendation to approve, with the stipulation that the fill utilized be clean and that pesticide use be limited. J. Rhodes seconds.

Motion carries, 5-0-1(S. Orzechowski abstained)

B. PRM Auto/Somersworth LLC, c/o DSR Motor Group- David Rosenberg is seeking a Conditional Use Permit to remove 2,000 SF impervious cover from the wetland buffer on a property located at 112 Route 108 in the Commercial/Industrial (CI) District, Assessor's Map 62 Lot 05, CUP#09-2022

Engineer Scott Lawler again presents.

The work under consideration is to move the entrance and remove approximately 2000 sqft of impervious pavement on the site. Volume of water and rate of runoff will decrease with the decrease of impervious surface on the property. There is no buffer impact beyond the removal of impervious surface. Snow storage will be at a loamed and seeded swale; perimeter silt control will be in place.

J. Rhodes moves to forward the CUP request to the planning board with a recommendation to approve; J. Degler seconds.

Motion carries 4-0-2 (K. Dodds, S. Orzechowski, abstained)

C. Any correspondence

Sunningdale Visit re: Multiflora Rose: Issue previously raised by resident Sheila Swallow; multiflora roses are visible throughout site. The residents are interested in forming a committee to deal with the roses, and seek advice on removal methods. D. Smith-Kenyon would advise as part of invasives work. M. Mears would supply maps. Cooperative extension is raised as a workshop provider. S. Childs will coordinate the workshop.

D. Any new business to come before the Commission

Rebecca Straffor (county forester) and AJ Duprix (cooperative extension) are ready to provide help for Idlehurst trees. K. Dodds and J. Degler will assist.

4. Old Business

A. Easement monitoring

Lenox Park: Open space on site, with vehicle tracks noted. Limited trash is noted, but includes a makeshift bridge and a tire. Many invasives noted. Report will be submitted.

Gerrish Commons: Evidence of dumping on site, as well as remains of an encampment. The site is heavily ribbon marked from nearby developments. No evidence of conservation markers is present.

B. Any Correspondence None.

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

i. Lily Pond wildlife management plan

S. Orzechowski has this on his list.

ii. Invasives plan sub-committee report

See 3D above. There's a possibility of including other species.

iii. Exploration of potential trail project at Malley Farm

A. Ficco is working on contacts at SRPC and NH Parks and Rec. We would need to write a plan and include on city insurance unless ATVs are permitted; if so, the state can fund. S. Orzechowski questions whether we could do some stabilization without a full trail; more to come on this item.

iv. Community Wildlife Habitat Publicity

S. Childs will submit for August session.

v. iNaturalist Project Publicity

See above, and requests to include photos/updates.

vi. Culvert Assessment

K. Dodds spoke to SRPC contacts; UNH has an agreement to sample culverts to Salmon Falls River. Will look to connect to link in. M. Mears has forwarded the most recent DPW assessment.

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

Lily Pond Bridge: Only bridge was a simple rope bridge; remove item.

Coles Pond Rd property: Access from Coles Pond Rd is in question; Could also be accessed via Oaks property.

Possibility of a city owned tree nursery is raised; K. odds will discuss with UNH Cooperative Extension.

Tree City USA: We're current; the DPW will renew in winter.

5. Treasurer's Report

No report at this session.

A. Ficco moves to adjourn, S. Childs seconds. Approved 6-0-0

Meeting adjourned at 7:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Jeremy Rhodes
Conservation Commission Secretary