

**SOMERSWORTH CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
March 11, 2020**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Angela Ficco
Larry Hamilton
Mercedes O'Donohue
Scott Orzechowski
Jeremy Rhodes
Dale Smith-Kenyon

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sarah McGraw - Small

STAFF PRESENT: Shanna B. Saunders, Director of Planning and Community Development.

The meeting was called to order by S Orzechowski at 6:03 pm.

1) **Approval of meeting minutes**

Conservation Meeting minutes February 12, 2020 (Regular & Nonpublic)

D. Smith-Kenyon moves to seal the nonpublic minutes until 6 months after the land transaction is complete; J. Rhodes seconds. Passed unanimously.

Additions/Corrections:

3A: Add 'and litigation'

5A: Note that site walk included A. Ficco

5B: Note that site walk included A. Ficco and S. Orzechowski

M. O'Donohue moves to accept as amended; L. Hamilton seconds. A. Ficco and D. Smith-Kenyon abstain, all others in favor.

2) **Public Comment**

No Public comments

3) **Continued Applications**

A) Wentworth-Douglass Hospital is seeking a conditional use permit for a 1 mile long nature trail in the wetland buffer on a property located at 23 Works Way, in the Commercial Industrial (C/I) District, Assessor's Map 61 Lot 14B, CUP#08-2019

The applicant continues to work with their engineering group and the NHDES and has requested a continuance.

D. Smith-Kenyon moves that the request for continuance to next meeting be granted. J. Rhodes seconds. Motion passed unanimously.

4) **New Business**

- A) Green Mountain Power Corporation is seeking a Conditional Use Permit for Complete Replacement of Four Underground Penstock Pipe Sections Associated with the Hydropower Dam on a Property Located at 80 Olde Mill Rd, in the R2A (Residential Duplex/A) District, Assessor's Map 02 Lot 02, CUP#01-2020

John Tedesco of Green Mountain Power and **Justin Reed**, Project Manager from PC Construction are present to discuss the project. This work is required by FERC and DES to bring the hydroelectric generator to full capacity; it's currently running at 50%. The Penstocks are pipes which run from the collection area of the river to the generator itself. These pipes arrive from the factory coated; the joins will be coated from the interior by a confined space crew. Topology will not be altered, although a small amount of impervious surface will be added as parking. No drainage or other concerns are expected; the representatives note that the site will be open to visitors throughout construction.

J. Rhodes moves to **recommend approval** of the Green Mountain Power Corporation Conditional Use Permit (CUP#01-2020) to the Planning Board; A. Ficco seconds. Unanimously approved.

- B) Election of Officers

Slate of officers nominated:

Chair: S. Orzechowski

Vice Chair: D. Smith-Kenyon

Secretary: J. Rhodes

Treasurer: S. Mcgraw-Small

Slate unanimously approved

- C) Any new business that may come before the commission

None

5) **Old Business**

A) Salmon Falls Woods (Mast Point Dam) Easement Site Walk Report

Discussed at last meeting.

B) Member Items, Sub-Committee Items, and Reports

Strafford County Conservation Commission is holding a plant sale in April

A drainage issue has been noted on Green Street; this section of road is State maintained, and will be referred to them.

There are multiple drainage lines/swales throughout the city that need attention; the Commission notes several on Commercial between Service Credit Union and Willand Rd; these will be looked at.

S. Saunders notes that the solar panels previously approved on Penny Lane are being installed.

C) Update regarding the property at 53 Coles Pond Road

Council will hear the grant news on 3/16; we'll move forward after this date.

D) Signage for Frank Richardson Trail

No news at this time.

E) Malley Farm Cottontail Habitat

We're looking at community involvement in a potential fall release.

F) Japanese Knotweed Control

No further plans at this time; we have the option to draft a policy to be distributed through multiple avenues, including channel 22.

G) Any Other Member/Sub-Committee Reports

None

H) Any Other Old Business That May Come Before the Commission

None

6) **Treasurer's Report**

No report at this session

A. Ficco moved to adjourn; D. Smith-Kenyon seconded. Approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Jeremy Rhodes
Conservation Commission Secretary