

November 19, 2020



Biddeford Conservation Commission Minutes for 11/19

I. Call to order

Chair called to order the regular meeting of the Biddeford Conservation Commission at 6 PM on November 19, 2020 via on-line Zoom application.

Commissioners present: Richard Rhames, Chrystina Gastelum, Steve Reiter, Ken Buechs, Bill Murray.

Commissioners not present: Tom Craven Susan Amons

Staff Representative and guests, Matt Eddy, Denis Rioux, Rick Knowlton (Maine Water), M. Daly

Rick Knowlton of Maine Water appeared before the Commission to address questions submitted by the Commission regarding the possibility of conservation easements along South Street including SSV LLC. Rick Knowlton agreed to work with Richard Rhames and Mat Eddy along with abutting property owners on potential acquisition of conservation easement property by the Saco Valley Land Trust. This was supported by Commission member consensus.

Secretary's Report October, 2020: **Motion** to approve (KB), second (SR); approved unanimously.

Finance Report: KenB reported balance of \$3,365

II. Old Business:

- a) TBWS Educational Outreach: discussion centered around the possibility of hiring a replacement for K. Burdick who has found full employment. M. Daly, UNE, offered to help in search for UNE student with related coursework and Internet skills after the new year.
- b) Climate Change Emergency Declaration: Steve R is working with the Mayor and City Manager to form ad hoc committee to work on City Climate Action plan.
- c) Biddeford Pool Contamination Update no new information.
- d) Natural Resource Database Language: **ACTION:** Richard R will deliver language to be entered into database.
- e) Comp Plan Update: Matt E reported that a new schedule and plan are being developed.

f) Use of a City BCC email address for shared BCC correspondence. **ACTION:** Chrystine G is working this with Staff

g) Mark Ward report and payment approval: motion to approve report and payment by Ken B, seconded by Christina G, unanimously approved. Report will now be delivered to Planning Board. Further discussion included possibility to have Mark appear before Planning Board during MUV discussions and his possible inclusion on the conservation easement discussions mentioned above..

IV. New Business:

- a) South Street Village Rezoning: Ken B reported sub-committee (M. Daly, Richard, Denis, Susan) very active in preparing material for submission to Planning Board. A request for moratorium on zoning changes was pending action by Council. Request for joint Planning Board/BCC workshop is pending. Other City committee/commissions have expressed support on need for new Comp Plan and moratorium.
- b) Motion to request Mark Ward prepare a proposal to compile a natural resource index on South Street corridor (KenB, seconded RichardR, approved unanimously. **ACTION:** Richard R will work with Mark on project definition

Next Meeting: scheduled for December 17, 2020 at 6PM.

Meeting Adjourned: Motion Ken B, Seconded Steve R, approved, adjourned 8:35 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Ken Buechs, Secretary