

City of Biddeford
Conservation Commission
June 15, 2023 6:00 PM City Hall
Council Chambers & Zoom
<https://biddeford.zoom.us/j/96703393426?pwd=QzNpMjdDL0NRdmM2aU1FUG1Wb1Jzdz09>
Webinar ID#967 0339 3426 Passcode 598990

Status: Conservation Commission Meeting, 6:00 PM, Council Chambers & Zoom

1. Secretary Report

- 1.1. Approve Meeting Minutes from 5-18-23
[BCC_Meeting Notes 5.18.23_DRAFT.pdf](#)

2. Adjustments to the Agenda

3. Old Business

- 3.1. LD 2003/665 The aftermath: Rep Marc Malon (schedule permitting)

- 3.2. 2024 Budget-Lateral approval of \$3,000.00

3.3. UPDATES:

Winding Creek Update-Maya

Mark Ward update: Clifford Park visits

3.4. Comp Plan-Council Action

1) Approved by City Council June 6, 2023

2) Land Acknowledgement:

The City of Biddeford would like to acknowledge the land and water that it occupies and abuts, which were the ancestral fishing, hunting, and agricultural grounds of the Abenaki and Wabanaki people for thousands of years. We recognize that we are on indigenous land and acknowledge the uncomfortable truths of settler colonialism, which led to the forced removal of Indigenous peoples from this place.

The harm from the physical and cultural genocide of Indigenous peoples here and throughout Maine, including Biddeford, continues and is felt by members of the Wabanaki Confederacy who live here today. As a simple way of acknowledging the truth, we extend our respect and gratitude to the many Indigenous peoples and their ancestors whose rich histories and vibrant communities include the Abenaki, Maliseet, Micmac, Passamaquoddy, and Penobscot Nations.

We recognize that the broader place we now call Maine is home to the sovereign people of the Wabanaki Confederacy and that we exist on their unceded homelands. We acknowledge that the Wabanaki are the People of the Dawnland and have stewarded this land throughout the generations. We thank them for their strength and resilience in protecting this land and aspire to uphold our responsibilities according to their example.

- 3.5. Erik's List
[Biddeford-Conservation-Parcels-2023-06-08.pdf](#)
- 3.6. Build-Out Scenario
- 4. New Business**
 - 4.1. Canid Control at Clifford Park
 - 4.2. Yard-scaping Post-Mortem-Next steps?
 - 4.3. Alt-energy at the airport? Devine/Andrews Road?
Conservation Easement & Contract Zone approved by City Council June6, 2023
- 5. Other Business?**
- 6. Adjourn-Next Meeting July 20, 2023**

Biddeford Conservation Commission

Thursday, May 18, 2023

6:05 pm - 8:16 pm

Attendees: R. Rhames, D. Rioux, M. Lowell, M. Atlas, P. Robbins, E. Heumiller and M. Lowell, and P. Conlon
Guests: N. Whitten

Meeting called to order: 6:05pm

I. Meeting Minutes:

A. Motion to accept meeting minutes from 4.27.23 with corrections (Biddeford Kennebunkport Vernal Pool Complex) – D. Rioux 6:07p

1. Second - E. Heumiller 6:07
2. No discussion
3. Unanimous approval

B. Motion to accept meeting minutes from 3.22.23 with corrections (Biddeford Kennebunkport Vernal Pool Complex) – D. Rioux 6:08p

1. Second - E. Heumiller 6:08p
2. No discussion
3. Unanimous approval

II. Adjustments to the agenda:

- A. Adding Hidden Hills to “Old Business”
- B. Adding Planning Board Checklist to “New Business”

III. Old Business:

A. Hidden Hills – the mobile park overlay parcel has been sold to Chamberlain

1. Voss and Potvin own the part that is currently unplanned
2. Biddeford did not use delegated authority to do the environmental review of the parcel
3. There is confusion about where the development is in it's process, what has changed with the sale of the parcel, and what has happened with the RFP that required correction
4. Motion for M. Atlas to email the City Planner and Greg Mitchell to request an update on the RFP for the environmental review and the implications of the sale of the parcel - M. Atlas

- a) Second E. Heumiller 6:34pm
- b) No discussion
- c) Unanimous approval

IV. New business:

A. Winding creek development/lawsuit

1. Construction vehicles have been removed since early May – uncertain why

B. Mark Ward's report

1. Findings of spotted turtle
2. Suggests overwintering population
3. R. Rhames will send pictures and report
4. Motion for E. Heumiller to request an inventory of Clifford Park parcels owned by Biddeford that do not have existing easements so we can build a compelling argument to put them into easement - M. Atlas 7:04p
- a) Second E. Heumiller 7:05p

- b) No discussion
 - c) Unanimous approval
 - C. Maine Coast Heritage Trust walk and report
 - 1. No major findings
 - 2. Could they send someone down to monitor the trails to make suggestions for how to build better trails to protect resources in the park
 - D. LD 2003/665 update
 - 1. Marc Malon has a bill in to “improve LD2003” (Bill #665 is intended to delay implementation)
 - 2. Compromise has been reached, in line with Marc’s bill, delay implementation until Jan 2024
 - 3. In order to do the right duplex/triplex you need water and sewer (not just water)
 - E. Thatcher Brook impairment/Yardscaping event
 - 1. [Tuesday 5-30-23, 6:00 PM City Council Chambers](#)
 - 2. Impaired Stream - activity has made the environment more “hostile” to its prime environment
 - a) Level of pollution makes it such that the DEP has designated it as “impaired”
 - b) Most impairment of Thatcher Brook happen East of Biddeford (in the wetlands where it originates)
 - c) “A stream is considered impaired if it fails to meet water quality standards because of ...”
 - 3. Requirement to educate public on their actions near an impaired stream
 - 4. E. Heumiller will pull together information about costs of water testing for West Brook to set a baseline for pre-development water quality
 - F. Airport - Leaded fuel
 - 1. Biddeford is not making strong enough efforts to require that leaded fuel be prohibited
 - G. Website:
 - 1. Add visuals
 - 2. Email Erik links to things that we’d like on the site
 - 3. [Beginning with Habitat online maps](#)
 - 4. Glossary of terms
 - 5. Lawn resources:
 - a) Convert lawn to meadow
 - H. Build Out Scenario
 - 1. Look at current zoning
 - 2. Assume what can be done, will be done
 - 3. Project out what the town would look like 20 years from now with the current zoning
 - 4. R. Rhames suggests that we do this to inform decisions about zoning and land use patterns
- V. Other Business:
 - A. Planning Board Checklist
 - 1. Importance of natural resource inventories
 - a) Make sure the language identifies
 - 2. Appropriate selection of biologists/ecologists (list built by third party, not developer)
- VI. Motion to adjourn 7:54 - M. Lowell
 - A. Second P. Conlon

Biddeford Acreage (Total)	Current Figures	Clifford Conservation
Conservation Acreage	37811.2	
	881.59	
Clifford Park (non-conservation)		97.3
Percent of Biddeford in Conservation	2.33%	2.59%

Name	Ward	Object ID	Map	Lot	SubLot	Parcel Acreage	Conservation Acreage	Status	Owner	Easement Holder	Purpose/Use	Acquired by
Seigny Donation Conservation Easement	1	6648	4	40		8.45	8.45		Saco Valley Land Trust	Saco Valley Land Trust		Donation
Seigny Donation Conservation Easement	1	6649	4	41		0	0		Saco Valley Land Trust	Saco Valley Land Trust		Donation
Overlook Estates Conservation Easement	1	7248	5	40		17.73	17.73		Saco Valley Land Trust	Saco Valley Land Trust		Donation
Rachel Carson NWR	1	7641	5	8	1	3.22	0.79		Shumaker Property Trust	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service		
Rachel Carson NWR	1	7689	5	8	3	4.5	0.86		Private	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service		
Rachel Carson NWR	1	7431	54	99		5.5	5.24		UNE	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service		
East Point Bird Sanctuary	1	7627	57	12		13	0	Follow up	Maine Audubon Society	Maine Audubon Society		
East Point Bird Sanctuary	1	7663	58	2		7	0	Follow up	Maine Audubon Society	Maine Audubon Society		
Jane Russell (East Point Bird Sanctuary)	1	7690	58	3		10	10		Private	Maine Audubon Society		
Clifford Park Expansion - Boutin	2	9416	8	1		53.82	53		City of Biddeford	Maine Coast Heritage Trust		
Blandings Park Wildlife Sanctuary	2	9970	8	7		24	24	Confirm?	Blandings Park Wildlife Sanctuary			
Blandings Park Wildlife Sanctuary	2	9417	8	10		8	8	Confirm?	Blandings Park Wildlife Sanctuary			
Blandings Park Wildlife Sanctuary	2	9418	8	11		34	34	Confirm?	Blandings Park Wildlife Sanctuary			
Blandings Park Wildlife Sanctuary	2	9421	8	11	1	4.8	4.8	Confirm?	Blandings Park Wildlife Sanctuary			
Blandings Park Wildlife Sanctuary	2	9431	8	12		7	7	Confirm?	Blandings Park Wildlife Sanctuary			
Blandings Park Wildlife Sanctuary	2	9445	8	13		10	10	Confirm?	Blandings Park Wildlife Sanctuary			
Blandings Park Wildlife Sanctuary	2	9653	8	39		31.02	31.02	Confirm?	Blandings Park Wildlife Sanctuary			
Blandings Park Wildlife Sanctuary	2	9683	8	41		10.69	10.69	Confirm?	Blandings Park Wildlife Sanctuary			
Blandings Park Wildlife Sanctuary	2	9757	8	48		34	34	Confirm?	Blandings Park Wildlife Sanctuary			
Blandings Park Wildlife Sanctuary	2	9995	8	74		17.55	17.55	Confirm?	Blandings Park Wildlife Sanctuary			
UNE Vernal Pools / Woodland Easement	3	6647	4	4		377.41	161	Follow up	UNE	Saco Valley Land Trust		
Teaberry Lane Conservation Easement	3	3275	3	19	13	4.63	4.63		Saco Valley Land Trust	Saco Valley Land Trust		Donation
Cranberry Marsh North Easement	3	3488	3	32		170	170		Private	Saco Valley Land Trust		
Chappell Easement	3	3566	3	36		88.4	4.4		Private	Saco Valley Land Trust		
Land Stewards Conservation Easement	3	6916	4	8	5	10.2	10.2		Saco Valley Land Trust	Saco Valley Land Trust		Donation
Land Stewards Conservation Easement	3	6932	4	8	6	72.07	72.07		Saco Valley Land Trust	Saco Valley Land Trust		Donation
Moreau Donation Conservation Easement	3	6129	4	12		8	8		Saco Valley Land Trust	Saco Valley Land Trust		Donation
Davis Farm Conservation Easement	3	6877	4	82	11	55.51	55.51		Saco Valley Land Trust	Saco Valley Land Trust		Donation
Huff Donation Conservation Easement	3	6944	4	83	3	30.1	30.1		Saco Valley Land Trust	Saco Valley Land Trust		Donation
Chretien Conservation Easement	3	9335	79	26	2	2.85	2.85		Saco Valley Land Trust	Saco Valley Land Trust		Donation
Patoine Donation Easement	6	262	1	35		34.94	44.1	Follow up	Saco Valley Land Trust	Saco Valley Land Trust		Donation
Patoine Donation Easement	6	309	1	38	5	7.73	6	Follow up	Private	Saco Valley Land Trust		
Woodman Donation Conservation Easement	7	1065	2	16		10	10		Saco Valley Land Trust	Saco Valley Land Trust		Donation
Taylor Estates Conservation Easement	7	1716	2	63	1	25.6	25.6		Saco Valley Land Trust	Saco Valley Land Trust		Donation
Clifford Park Parcels - Not in Conservation												
Clifford Park (current use)	2		8	3	1	60.6	60.6		City of Biddeford			
Clifford Park (current use)	2		8	3	?	?		Follow up	City of Biddeford			Land Swap
Clifford Park (current use)	2		30	58	?	?		Follow up	City of Biddeford			Land Swap
Clifford Park (current use)	2		35	90		5	2		Community Bicycle Center			
Clifford Park (current use)	2		39	333		4.8	2		Private			
Clifford Park (current use)	2		39	334		25.2	25.2		City of Biddeford			
Clifford Park (current use)	2		39	334	1	3.5	2		Private			
Clifford Park (current use)	2		42	121	1	0.5	0.5		City of Biddeford		Cemetery	
Clifford Park (current use)	2		42	124		7.28	5		Private			
Clifford Park Subtotal							97.3					