

Biddeford Conservation Commission

Thursday, April 27, 2023

6:05 pm - 8:15 pm

Attendees: R. Rhames, D. Rioux, M. Lowell, M. Atlas, P. Robbins, and P. Conlon

Guests: N. Whitten

Absent: E. Heumiller and M. Lowell

Meeting called to order: 6:05pm

- I. Welcome new member – Patrick Conlon
- II. *Motion to move voting on two March meeting minutes and one April meeting to the next meeting (M. Atlas 6:14p)*
 - A. *Second: D. Rioux*
 1. *No Discussion*
 - B. *Unanimous approval*
- III. Adjustments to the agenda
 - A. Adding Winding Creek Update to agenda
- IV. Finance Report
 - A. The council didn't get the BCC request for \$5,000
 1. Councilor will be making a motion to accept our request per the meeting minutes Richard shared
- V. Old Business -
 - A. Mark Ward Clifford Park Visits
 1. For background, we hired him in the early 2000's to do an inventory of natural resources on the Kennebunk Vernal Pool Complex
 2. Quoted heavily in the open space plan
 3. Visiting Clifford Park currently –
 - a) Checking egg mass counts in vernal pools
 - b) Wanted to see if he could find evidence of turtles basking in wetlands
 - (1) He has a thesis that there are turtles overwintering in Clifford Park
 - c) Seeing if the existing trails on Boutin property need to be moved to protect critters in the pools
 - B. MCHT Monitoring Visit/Trail-layout consult
 1. Volunteered to come out and walk parcels to do a scheme for trail layout so trails are laid out better
- VI. New Business –
 - A. Yardscaping event on May 30
 1. Should we see if a local farm can bring and sell native plants to help people yardscape responsibly
 - B. Comprehensive Plan Update
 1. <https://our.biddefordmaine.org/en/>
 2. Current Draft (March 30)
<https://www.biddefordmaine.org/DocumentCenter/View/11409/033023-Comprehensive-Plan>
 3. First reading - May 16

4. Second Reading - June 6

C. LD 665 Update

1. Act To Extend The Date By Which Compliance Is Required For Affordable Housing Development, Increased Numbers Of Dwelling Units And Accessory Dwelling Units.
2. Proposed by the Maine Municipal Authority to delay hearing by 2 years
3. *Motion to task R. Rhames with writing a letter of support of LD 665 to our representative Marc Malon on behalf of BCC to make a case against the basic assumptions of LD 2003 – D. Rioux*
 - a) *Second P. Conlon*
 - b) *Unanimous approval*

D. Newtown Road Concerns

1. Fire substation concerns
 - a) Favored location is on Newtown Road (lot from UNE)
 - (1) Plot includes some wetlands
 - (2) Road is not suited to that traffic
2. Proposed 9 unit development
 - a) Too much density, already unmanaged parking and noise violations

E. Recycling/MSW Contract renewal

F. Adjustment to agenda: delaying Erik's website updates so that the commission can review the Conservation Commission Code: <https://ecode360.com/15139303#15139303>

G. Phone numbers not listed on the site

1. What is right and expected in terms of means to contact city representatives

H. Winding Creek Development

1. Due to delegated authority a lot of processes didn't have to take place
2. Maya to request a workshop with someone (Greg Mitchell?) to explain how delegated authority works and what the implications are

VII. Other Business –

A. Oil change development proposal

1. Raises the question: if a development fits the zoning but doesn't fit the city's goals, can a development be vetoed?

VIII. Meeting Adjourned at 8:15