

City of Biddeford Conservation Commission

May 22, 2024 6:00 PM

City Hall Council Chambers & Zoom

Attendees:

Richard Rhames, Denis Rioux, Michael Lowell, Patrick Conlon, Peter Robbins, Erik Heumiller, Maya Atlas

Meeting called to order: 6:05pm

1. Adjustments to Agenda
2. Secretary Report
 - 2.1. Approve Meeting Minutes for 3-27-24 [BCC-Meeting-Notes-2024-03-27.pdf](#)
 - Motion: Table until we can find March/April and link online (E. Heumiller)
 - Second: P. Robbins
 - No Discussion
 - Unanimous
3. Discussions
 - 3.1. Budget 24-25
 - We received our requested budget of \$3,000
 - 3.2. UNE Capstone presentations archive?
 - Audio was not recorded in the link available online
 - D. Galbraith will look into backup recordings
 - BCC meetings will be televised, but only up to 7pm due to school board meetings that conflict with schedule
 - Could use the 2nd channel as an alternate? (D. Rioux)
 - Municipal YouTube account?
 - City is using Granicus (system)
 - City could poll residents to see preferred channels for engaging with the city govt. (M. Atlas)
 - D. Galbraith suggested 2nd Wednesday as an option free of conflicts
 - TBD
 - 3.3. Map 1, Lot 19 and...
 - M. Lowell met with Mayor Grohman 5/22/2024 and delivered a letter of intent from the BCC to put this lot into a conservation easement
 - Mayor Grohman mentioned there was some type of interest of solar development in the area that may conflict with conservation goals
 - D. Galbraith thinks this was previously approved to be in a conservation easement, needs to search through city clerk and meeting minutes to see if there was a resolution
 - 3.4. Clifford Park easement: Rec Commission collaboration; sustainability ad hoc
 - Policy Com. - no action

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- Rec. Com. - R. Rhames spoke with them this week - no action
 - Joe will attend June meeting to get an update about their perspective and plans for new trails
- Biddeford Saco Climate Action Team
 - Questions about disposition process
 - BSCAT gets support from the Sierra Club
- 3.5. Climate Cluster [5-22-24 Global Heating Blast.pdf](#)
- 3.6. Rabbitat event: June 8, 2024; Turtle X-ing signs deployed
 - SVLT hosting this event - rain date 6/9/2024
 - Rachel Carson representative will speak
- 3.7. Water quality data logger
 - Motion: E. Heumiller
 - Second: M. Lowell
 - Discussion
 - What locations (P.) — VRMP + any others (E. Heumiller)
 - E. Heumiller to connect w/ D. Rioux about Swan Pond access
 - Unanimous
- 4. Other Business
 - 4.1. DEP VRMP
 - Adding Swan Pond location at Denis' property
 - Thatcher Brook - 3 locations
 - 4.2. P. Robbins - A friend on map-1 parcels 69-70 was approached by someone looking to purchase the property or looking to get a right of way
 - 4.3. Any updates on the Biddeford Connector highway off ramp expansion
 - Worth bringing the conversation to the City Council
 - Looking into stats from opposition to Gorham Highway Expansion
 - Books: Crossings, Traffication, City Limits
- 5. Next Meeting - June 26, 2024
- 6. Adjourn