Biddeford Conservation Commission Minutes

February 20, 2020

I. Call to order

Chair called to order the regular meeting of the Biddeford Conservation Commission at 7:25 PM on February 20, 2020 at City Hall. Meeting began late because City Hall was locked**. Steve will check on who to contact in future.**

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

Commissioners not present: Sue Amons,

Educational Outreach Coordinator: Kayla Burdick

Guests: Ward 1 Councilor Bill Emhiser, 4 UNE Citizenship Students

II. Secretary's Report: Motion to approve (KB), second (TC); approved unanimously

III. Finance Report: Current: $4,602.00

IV. Old Business:

a) TBWS Educational Outreach (Lead: Kayla)

- BHS science teacher planning Thatcher Brook field trip and clean-up around Earth Day in April.

b) Climate Change Emergency Declaration (Leads: Steve)

- After discussions with Mayor, City Manager, presentation now scheduled for **March 3** City Council meeting. **All were asked to attend**.
- Review and discussion of presentation contents followed by motion to approve content with exception of "non-binding resolution" to be removed (KB), seconded (CG), approved unanimously.
- Resolution to be presented to Council following meeting.

c) Biddeford Pool Contamination Update: (Lead: Bill)

Bill attended Shellfish Commission meeting: funding available now for dredging and water quality testing responsibilities. Councilor Emhiser has been attending meetings with all interested parties and was asked to pursue communication responsibility if clam flats are closed again this year.

d) Wildlife Study Waiver Update: (Lead: Richard)

- Not scheduled for final Planning Board review yet.

e) Comp Plan Update (Lead: Richard)

- Richard attended last meeting and was allowed to speak on questions from the BCC.
- Plan is not yet addressing natural resources
- Plan is still in draft form and being reviewed

f) Natural Resource Database Update (Lead: Richard)

- Richard and Denis Rioux are following up with City Staff (Copeland) before authorizing budget for M. Ward; important that we tie this down as Spring is approaching and Mark's availability schedule is a factor.

V. New Business:

Steve reported on meeting with Maine Water and tour of current facility and future site.

Next Meeting: scheduled for March 19, 2020

Meeting Adjourned: 9:15 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Ken Buechs, Secretary