



Biddeford Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes,

January 18, 2018

I. Call to order

Chair called to order the regular meeting of the Biddeford Conservation Commission at 7:09 PM on January 18, 2018 in the Council Conference Room.

The following commissioners were present: Tom Craven, Sue Amon, Steve Reiter, Bill Murray, Ken Buechs

The following commissioners were absent: none

Guests:

Richard Rhames
Michele Furbeck, BCC Educational Outreach Coordinator
Emily Greene
Marcia Reynolds

Acceptance of minutes from last meeting: December minutes were approved.

II. Finance Report

- a) \$4,800.00 (no change from last report)

III. Old business

a) Membership renewal in the Southern Maine Conservation Collaborative

Ken: Motion to not renew membership in SMCC

Steve: Second Motion to table discussion on membership renewal until later discussion on 2018 Goals in order to consider projects that may benefit from SMCC membership

Bill: Seconded motion

In Favor: Sue, Steve, Bill, Ken Against: Tom

b) Board vacancies

- ✓ New member application submitted by Marcia Reynolds (attending)
- ✓ **Action Item:** Chair will speak to Mayor regarding application of R. Rhames.

c) Election of officers:

Continuing as Chair: Tom Craven

Continuing as Vice Chair: Ken Buechs

Continuing as Secretary: Steve Reiter

d) 2018 Goals

- ✓ Commission voted on renewal of SMCC membership and it was decided by unanimous vote not to pursue renewal
- ✓ Sue: proposed identifying areas of high value areas within City as identified by Open Space Plan that require focus by the commission in order to preserve these areas/habitats. An example given was a cranberry bog. Members agreed this was a suitable goal to pursue within the scope of the BCC. **Action Item:** Sue will draft for next meeting and/or Comp Plan Committee
- ✓ Continue and expand school outreach program to include: Biddeford Middle Schools, Saint James School and introduction of YardSmart Program

IV. New business

a) Shoreline zoning ordinance amendment to create a General Development zone allowing UNE to construct a multi-use pavilion

- ✓ UNE shoreline property currently zoned LR (Limited Residential) within Institutional Zone with a 100 foot setback requirement. UNE is requesting the setback be changed to 75 feet and LR changed to GD-2.
- ✓ UNE is giving up large section of property currently used for a parking lot to act as a buffer zone (impervious soil). UNE feels removing the hardtop would mitigate the potential risk in locating the Pavilion within the additional 25 foot setback.
- ✓ A public hearing has been scheduled for February 7.
- ✓ **Action Item:** Ken and Sue to conduct research and report back more information on zoning change.

Ken: Motion to oppose setback change from 100 feet to 75 feet on Saco River as it would set a precedent for other shoreline property owners and entities to legally challenge the 100 foot setback requirement

Steve: Seconded Motion

Vote in favor of motion: All

b) Members discussed the results of the TBWS Work Group

- ✓ Members discussed the results of the last Work Group meeting and the resignation of Theresa Galvin as project leader
- ✓ **Action Item:** Tom to request copy of work plan timeline showing project task schedule and status of tasks to completion

c) Action Item: Richard Rhames will draft a support memorandum of Commission support for the Saco Valley Land Trust (SVLT) grant application.

d) Action Item: Chair will include Denis Rioux on minutes, agendas and meeting reminders

Next Meeting: February 15, 2018

Chair adjourned meeting: 8:49 PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Steve Reiter, Secretary