

City of Biddeford
Conservation Commission
October 23, 2024 at 6:00 PM
City Hall Council Chambers & Zoom

Attendees: Richard Rhames, Maya Atlas, Erik Heumiller, Peter Robbins, Patrick Conlon

Guests: Adi Iriqat

Call to order: 6:06pm

1.
Adjustment(s) to Agenda

2.
Secretary Report

2.a Approval of Meeting Minutes from July 24th + September 25th, 2024
Motion to defer: P. Robbins, Second: P. Conlon, Vote: Unanimous

3.
Presentations/Discussions

4.
New Business

4.a Project Canopy - Clifford Park Management Plan — NEXT STEPS

- Good idea to identify the forester we want to work with prior to applying, to have concrete quotes/costs identified
 - Dave Parker
 - TBD member of Biddeford-Saco Climate Group
- Need to connect with David to confirm City staff availability to support the application and volunteer time

4.b Swan Pond Brook — Lot Update
Will follow up with David

4.c Water Quality Testing
The DEP program (VRMP) has closed for the season.
Had some issues with loss of data logs - hoping to restore it. (E. Heumiller)
Erik is working on a plan to recruit more volunteers for data collection

- Tables at Biddeford events for BCC, etc.
- Write up in the Biddeford Beat newsletter

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4.d Family Forest Carbon Update

Erik to identify parcels over 30+ acres to send mail. (winter project)

- Document will contain this program as well as conservation easement details, NRCS info, and project canopy info.
- Could use the opportunity to collect emails to aid in hosting future events or communicating with landowners.

4.e Comp Plan Status - Planner Memo from 10/23/2023

- BCC could supply info for the item "D"
 - Areas protected through acquisition, easements, or other
- BCC should also formalize a presentation to the Planning Board and City Council to communicate goals for conservation to get City buy-in
- Adi and David will dive into the response

4.f Solar Ordinance Deliberations — Sustainability Committee's Process

Richard and Peter attended the Sustainability Committee's deliberations

- Ad-hoc committee has been established by City Council
- Sustainability Committee voted on their draft on 10/22
- Richard requested that the draft be shared with the BCC
 - Erik to reach out to David/Adi to request the final voted upon draft so that we can be prepared for the workshop with Planning Board
- May schedule a separate meeting for the BCC to do our own workshop

4.g Rabbit-tat Forest Walk

10/26/2024 with Sarah Dudek, a Rachel Carson staffer

- Roughly a 1-mile trip
- Location: 10 West Loop Rd
- Time: 1:00pm

5.

Other Business

5.a UNE internship opportunities

Possible 10/30 meeting with Dylan Brothers (any time after 1:00pm)

- Richard and Erik to attend

5.b November meeting date - Ideally meeting on 11/13, pending availability

6.

Adjourn

Motion to defer: P. Robbins, Second: P. Conlon, Vote: Unanimous