

City of Biddeford
Conservation Commission
December 16, 2024 at 6:00 PM
City Hall Council Chambers & Zoom

Attendees: Richard Rhames, Erik Heumiller, Peter Robbins, Denis Rioux

Guests: Adi Iriqat

Call to order: 6:08 pm

1.
Adjustment(s) to Agenda

2.
Secretary Report

2.a Nov. meeting minutes not submitted on time, will approve at next meeting

3.
Presentations/Discussions

- 3.a Project Canopy - Clifford Park Management Plan (Update)
- We appear within the [Eligibility Map](#) on Grant Tract 025202
 - Mandatory Grant Workshop - Feb. 2025?
 - Deadline for application - May 2025?
 - Richard Rhames connected with David Parker (Forester) and David has done Forest Management Plan
 - Reminder to follow up with Nan Whitten/David Galbraith about updates to the City's GIS maps to recognize the newly acquired park land adjacent to Clifford Park
 - Need to find out if the City needs to put out an RFP for a forester or if we can move ahead with David Parker as a consultant
- 3.b Solar Ordinance Draft Review
- Discussion of current draft and comments to streamline notes for working session with Planning Board
 - Public Advocate Report
 - Concerns about cost to rate payers in Biddeford to finance these installations — higher costs than traditional rates
 - Richard to get Public Advocate Office to attend our Jan. meeting

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- 3.c Citizen's Climate Lobby — Endorsement Discussion
 - Sustainability Committee voted to accept the non-binding agreement
 - They are presenting to City Council ASAP
- 3.d Swan Pond Brook Lot - (Map 1 Lot 19)
 - Looking for an update from David Galbraith about how the city acquired this parcel, to inform how the City needs to offload it
 - Goal is for the City to place it in a permanent conservation easement
- 3.e Comp Plan Deficiencies "Not Founds" (see memo, 6/26/2024)
 - Adi and David Galbraith met and Adi has presented some of the updates to the missing items
 - David to review and proceed
 - BCC interested in what sections we could contribute to
- 3.f UNE Interns
 - Looking to finalize details this week by 12/20, but need to connect with Biddeford HR team
 - Internship will start Jan. 15, 2025 — Marine Affairs Major, GIS Minor

4.
New Business

- 4.a Cataract Dam Licensing (update)
 - Erik attended the environmental site review on 11/19
 - No other representatives from Biddeford or Saco were present
 - Primarily DMR, NOAA, and other biologists and engineers
 - Erik also attended a teleconference with interested parties on 12/12, getting more insight into fish passage stats and historical data
 - Comments on the relicensing application are due 12/18
 - Erik has reviewed the Pre-Application Document and has comments to share via email, and plans to submit them on 12/18 pending any objection

5.
Other Business

- 5.a January meeting date - planning for Wednesday 1/22/2025

6.
Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: Erik, Second: Patrick, Vote: Unanimous