

Hampton Conservation Commission  
Draft Minutes  
Tuesday, April 25, 2017

Present: Barbara Renaud, Chairman  
Jay Diener, Vice Chairman  
Peter Tilton, Jr.  
Sharon Raymond  
Anthony Coilfi, Alternate

Also Present: Rayann Dionne, Conservation Coordinator

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Renaud at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Selectmen's Meeting Room.

**II. Election of Officers**

Mr. Diener nominated Barbara Renaud to be Chair

**SECONDED:** Ms. Raymond

**VOTE:** 4-0-1 (Ms. Renaud abstained)

**MOTION PASSED**

Mr. Diener nominated Pat Swank to be Vice Chair

**SECONDED:** Mr. Tilton

**VOTE:** 5-0-0

**MOTION PASSED**

Mr. Tilton nominated Diane Shaw for financial clerk

**SECONDED:** Ms. Raymond

**VOTE:** 5-0 -0 **MOTIONS PASSED**

**III. Review Minutes**

**MOTION:** Mr. Tilton moved to approve the March 28, 2017, minutes with the edits provided.

**SECONDED:** Ms. Raymond

**VOTE:** 3-0-2 abstentions (Ms. Renaud and Mr. Coilfi)

**MOTION PASSED**

**IV. Appointments**

1. Eagle Scout Proposal – Jonty's Lane parking

Noah Taracena presented to the Commission his idea for an Eagle Scout project. His original proposal was to improve the parking at Ice Pond by creating a group of parking spaces perpendicular to the road. However, upon DPW's review, it was determined that the sight distances were not sufficient to allow cars to back out safely onto to Woodland Rd. DPW recommended trying a similar type of parking layout at Jonty's Lane, a class 6 road, which provides access to the Town Forest off of Barbour Rd. There is currently a gate on Jonty's Lane, but if the gate was moved further back from Barbour Rd there might be sufficient space to creating parking without blocking Jonty's Lane. Mrs. Dionne shared this idea with the Town

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Manager and he believes that permission to move the gate would require a Town Warrant article. He did not believe it was something the Board of Selectmen has the authority to approve.

Noah shared that he went out to Jonty's Lane last week to take a closer look at the space available for parking. He believes there might be enough room to create some wider parallel parking spots (4-5 spots) with some brush/small tree removal and widening the shoulder with gravel. Mrs. Dionne commented that this alternative will need to be discussed with DPW for their approval and if on board then Board of Selectmen approval would be next.

Mr. Tilton shared that DPW did some shoulder widening near the Victory garden to provide more parking. Mr. Tilton also raised the question that if improvements are made to the shoulder near Jonty's lane than there won't be much motivation to move the gate back to create more parking later on. Unfortunately, Noah's project time frame isn't long enough to wait for the Town meeting in March of 2018. Mr. Diener asked about whether the brush/small tree work was something Noah could accomplish with his troop or would he need DPW's help? Noah felt they were small enough to be taken down with a chain saw and didn't think DPW's help would be necessary. Mr. Coilfi added that Noah will want to make sure he includes DPW when he's picking out materials because they may want a certain type of gravel for the shoulder.

Ms. Renaud asked about Noah project timeline. Noah replied that he was hoping to get his project scope finalized so that he could start fundraising towards the end of this school year and then complete the work over the summer or early fall. All of the Commission members liked the idea of creating additional parking for the Town Forest near Jonty's Lane. There is definitely a shortage and this would help fill that need.

Lastly, Mrs. Dionne asked the Commission if there were any other projects ideas they could share with Noah just in case the parking near Jonty's Lane is not approved by DPW. The ideas that were discussed were residing/rehabbing the Blacksmith Shop at the Victory Garden, installing picture posts or conducting a storm drain stenciling event. The Commission thanked Noah for his proposal and wished him luck with his project.

## 2. Liberty Lane East – Water main installation and permitting discussion

Mr. Corey Colwell with MSC engineering presented to the Commission a waterline rerouting project that would occur in Liberty Lane East complex. He briefly described that this project is associated with the replacement of the sewer line that runs under Route 101 from Liberty Lane to the pump station on Langdale Drive. Currently, there is a sleeve that contains both the clogged sewer pipe and water line. The plan is to replace the sewer line, however, due to updates in health codes the waterline cannot be contained in the same sleeve. It was determined that Liberty Lane East could be serviced by the water main along Towle Farm Road. Several waterline routes were considered and it was determined that the easiest and most cost effect approach would be to install a new sleeve and water line using directional boring that would

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travel the shortest distance from Towle Farm Rd into the Liberty Lane East system. The shortest distance would involve boring underneath one of the ponds. Mr. Colwell wanted the Commission's opinion on whether directional boring underneath the pond would require a Town Wetlands Permit. He shared that based on his conversations with David Price at NHDES, there would be no State Wetlands Permit required for the directional boring underneath a pond. Mr. Colwell did explain that direction boring requires an entry pit and a receiving pit which is where the boring enters the ground and then resurfaces. Only the receiving pit will be located within the buffer. Mr. Coilfi asked what material is the sleeve made from and Mr. Colwell replied that the sleeve is an HDPE (high-density polyethylene) pipe.

Mr. Bernie Lee with Severino Trucking, the directional boring contractor, provided greater details on how the boring procedure. In general, direction boring is a drilling process that is controlled by computerized mechanical equipment. He gave some examples of work they have done with directional boring along the Spaulding Turnpike where they installed an 18" sleeve with 8" water line under Pomeroy Cove. Mr. Lee shared that one of the advantages of direction borings is the minimal impact. The entry and receiving pits are rather small no larger than the U-shaped tables the Commission members were sitting at. At Liberty Lane, the entry pit will be about 60' from the 50' buffer, the boring will go approximately 140' to the receiving pit and it will be at least 2' below the bottom of the pond. He continued that that topographic mapping of the pond's bottom is still needed but in general, the water depth ranges from 4 to 6 feet. The boring process does not create any voids or sink holes, and the sleeve is pulled through. This approach goes the shortest distance with the least amount of wetland buffer impacts.

Mr. Tilton asked about the material in the bottom of the pond and whether it has a clay base or a liner. He was concerned that was if that bottom of the pond was breached it would drain out. Mr. Lee responded that based on the time it the pond was created it is most likely a clay liner. They will need to do more field work to confirm that. He reiterated that the plan is to have the boring at least 2 feet below that hard bottom. He did note that if the bottom of the bond is on bedrock then directional boring will not be feasible.

Ms. Raymond commented that soils borings provide critical information as to whether the directional boring approach is a viable option. Mr. Lee agreed and commented that a geotechnical engineer will be involved in determining if the soils are appropriate.

There was a brief discussion about whether the process of collecting the soil boring data required a Town Wetlands Permit. The consensus of the Commission was that a detailed plan for collecting the soils boring shall be provided to the Conservation Coordinator prior commencing field work. The Commission also agreed that if the directional boring approach is pursued then a Town Wetlands Permit would be required for the impacts associated with creating the receiving pit. Mr. Colwell thanked the Commission for their time and would be in contact with the Conservation Coordinator as they move forward.

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**V. Applications**

**1. 234 Lafayette Rd**

**Town Wetlands Permit**

**Owner:** Two Thirty-Four Lafayette Road Realty Trust

**Agent:** Emanuel Engineering

Bruce Scamman with Emanuel Engineering came before the Commission representing 234 Lafayette with Brendan Quigley a Wetland Scientist with Gove Environmental. Mr. Scamman shared the history of the site going back a total of 11 years when the owner was before the Commission for a renovation and parking area expansion. The property owner chose not to move forward but is back with a very similar plan. Mr. Scamman pointed out on a plan the location of the wetlands and the proposed parking area. Mr. Quigley spoke briefly about the characteristics of the wetlands which have not changed since 2006. Mr. Scamman stated that the proposed parking area is in the same configuration as 2006, with a slight reduction in size (35 sq. ft.). The biggest difference is the proposed parking area material which has been changed from bituminous asphalt to porous asphalt. He noted that a riprap outlet has been added to the porous pavement underdrain based on PRC (Plan Review Committee) comments. Mr. Scamman went on to explain that the bottom of the lowest porous pavement layer will be 3' above the seasonal high water table. Ms. Raymond asked for additional clarification on the distance from the water table and Mr. Scamman explained the soil testing results. Mr. Coilfi, after reviewing the porous pavement layers, asked if the proposal was comparable to UNH Stormwater design requirements. Mr. Scamman confirmed it was and added that Mr. Robert Roseen, a former teacher at the UNH Stormwater Center, reviews their designs. Lastly, Mr. Scamman noted that their design utilizes a drywell back system which also provides additional infiltration.

**Public Comment: No Public Comment**

**MOTION:** Mr. Tilton to recommend the Town Wetlands Permit for the construction of a porous asphalt parking area at 234 Lafayette Rd with the installation of at least one wetland marker disk along the buffer adjacent to the new parking area.

**SECONDED: Ms. Raymond**

**VOTE: 5-0-0**

**MOTION PASSED**

**VI. Old Business**

1. Potential 2018 Warrant Articles. Ms. Renaud asked if this could be discussed at the next meeting and Mrs. Dionne agreed.

**VII. New Business**

1. Potential picture post locations in Hampton

Mr. Diener shared that he and Mrs. Dionne recently attended an UNH/Sea Grant training on picture posts in Hampton Falls. There is currently a picture post installed at the end of Depot Rd in Hampton Falls. He shared that these posts allow photos to be taken from the same angles

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which provide consistent monitoring data over time. Mr. Diener went into more detail about how the pictures are taken and uploaded using the Picture Post app or upload to the Picture Post website. Mr. Diener wanted to know if the Conservation Commission might be agreeable to having a picture post installed at the conservation easement on Drakeside Rd, Ice Pond or the end of Mooring Drive. Commission members were supportive of the idea. Mrs. Dionne asked if there were any groups that might be interested in doing the installation, perhaps a Boy Scout troop. Mr. Coilfi recommended the Interact Club at the Hampton Academy or the High School because they are often looking for community-related projects. Mrs. Dionne asked if Mr. Coilfi could provide her with a contact for the Interact and Club. Mrs. Dionne said that she would reach out to the Interact club and local Boy Scout Troops.

2. Understanding the Right-to-Know Law

Ms. Renaud shared a recent memo from the Town Manager inviting Commission members to a training on the Right-to-Know-Law on May 16<sup>th</sup>. She encouraged members to attend as it has been a recent news topic. In general, Commission members are comfortable with the law but there seem to be nuances that are worth understanding further. There was a brief discussion about responding to group emails sent out by the Conservation Coordinator and a reminder to not select the “reply to all” option.

3. Ice Pond Mowing

Ms. Renaud asked if the Commission was in favor of continuing the mowing of the field area at Ice Pond. Mr. Diener added that the contractor was offering the same rate and would plan on mowing every 5 to 6 weeks. The continued mowing is keeping the invasive Japanese Knotweed at bay. The consensus of the Commission was to continue with the same contractor as the mowing funds are part of the yearly budget.

4. RCCD draft ARM Fund maps

Mrs. Dionne presented 6 draft Focus area maps produced by RCCD for the ARM Fund project. She reviewed each map and gave examples of potential projects for each area. Land conservation was one project type that was across all 6 focus areas. The Commission had no issues with the identified focus areas.

## **VIII. Conservation Coordinator and Chair Update**

Ms. Renaud updated the Commission members on the 36 Huckleberry Lane subdivision, which is before the ZBA for relief from several Wetland Ordinance sections. At the ZBA April meeting, the discussion was continued because a ZBA member had to leave early. The subdivision review has been continued at the May 18<sup>th</sup> ZBA meeting.

Ms. Renaud shared that a few Commission members will be meeting with a group of mountain bikers that use the Town Forest area for riding on May 4<sup>th</sup> to do a site visit. The intent is to think about ways to improve the area and increase visitors. Mr. Diener shared the idea of

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scheduling a Town Forest clean-up on June 3<sup>rd</sup> which is acknowledged at Trail Maintenance Day.

Mr. Diener also shared information about suction dredging and vegetation removal. He has recently been in contact with a contractor who performs vegetation removal with divers who removed vegetation by suction or hand pulling. For a diver to complete a vegetation pull an estimated cost is \$18,000 (\$90/hr at 40 hours a week for 5). He thought cost estimate was particularly interesting because the Commission has had no real sense of the cost of vegetation removal. This contractor is already booked for this summer. This type of services might be something the Commission wants to consider in the future to help maintain the water level depth at Ice Pond. Mr. Diener did note that the contractor recommended doing vegetation removal and dredging at the same time for the best results.

Lastly, Mr., Diener shared an email he received from the North Hampton Conservation Commission Chair regarding high bacteria levels detected at the culvert near Route 1A and Huckleberry Lane. The count was 16 times above safe levels. Mr. Diener passed this information along to DPW. They are going to take some additional samples to determine if additional attention is needed.

**IX. Adjourn**

**MOTION:** Mr. Diener moved to adjourn at 8:59 p.m.

**SECONDED:** Ms. Raymond

**VOTE:** 5-0-0

**MOTION PASSED**

The next meeting of the Conservation Commission will be held on May 23, 2017.

Respectfully Recorded,  
Rayann Dionne