

**Town of Bristol
Conservation Commission
December 2, 2015
Meeting Minutes**

Call to order: 7:02 PM

Members Present: Janet Cote, Sandra Heaney, and Richard Batchelder.

Minutes Review and Approval: Sandra Heaney moved to approve the November 23, 2015 minutes, seconded Richard Batchelder. The motion was approved by a 3-0 vote.

Correspondence Review: Info Requests, Wetlands Permits, Planning Board, Zoning Board, etc.

Notice of Decisions:

Zaremba: A Site Plan Review was approved with the following conditions. 1. A DOT permit to allow expansion of the front buffer. 2. Identifier sign to be 10' & design to be determined. 3. 2 faux windows on each side of the building. 4. Time of delivery to be according to the town noise ordinance. 5. Maintenance of drainage system to be filed with the town. 6. Landscaping maintained by a professional company.

Planning Board December 9th meeting: A public hearing on the proposed Zoning amendments, a Compliance/Site Plan Review for Zaremba and a Continued Site Plan Review for New England Family Housing.

A letter from DES was received regarding Red Fox Village: File #2015-02814 Bristol tax map/lot # 107/142/143. The letter states that the preliminary review of the file indicates that the application does not meet the rules for the 30-day expedited review because it is considered a major project based on specific criteria. DES will review the application under the rules for a Standard Dredge and Fill Application. The letter also states that no work may be started until DES issues a permit.

A Wetlands Site Permit for Camelot Acres was approved on November 24th. Mrs. Cote commented that there are conditions but they are basically boiler plate.

An email was received from Nick Cotes of the NH Association of Conservation Commissions. A letter from DES to Pamela Monroe, SEC Administrator regarding the SEC Certificate of Site and Facility was attached. The letter states that the additional components now meet the Department's administrative completeness requirements. RSA 162-H:7, requires the Committee to decide within 60 days from the date on which the Application was filed whether to accept the Application or reject it.

An email was received from Peter Roth to Pamela Monroe acting as Counsel for the Public in regards to the Northern Pass Application. The letter is to advise the Committee on a number of important issues that were observed in the application with the public interest in mind.

Wetlands and Shoreland permit applications and updates:

Kevin Lacasse and Kent Brown-Lake Street Map 112 Lot 37-Alteration of Terrain, Shoreland, and Wetlands permitting for building project: continued Site Plan Review scheduled with Planning Board on 12/9/15- 32 unit multi-family apartment development. Mrs. Cote commented that it will be important to monitor this. Ms. Heaney commented that they might not have filed yet as they still have a lot to go through with the Planning Board.

Old Business:

Northern Pass SEC Application: Ms. Heaney sent an email to Mrs. Cote after reviewing the application. The information that pertains to Bristol is as follows: there are active wetlands in all the sections located in Bristol and all will require ground disturbance to install the proposed towers. In total there are 32 wetlands covering 8.5 acres including 18 rivers and streams. NPT have estimated that 17,297 sq. ft. will be directly impacted by construction and 64 sq. ft. will be permanently impacted. The monetary assessment of this impact is estimated at \$270,564.80. The proposed drainage work at Red Fox Village was denied by NPT as a suitable project for compensatory mitigation. It appears that each wetland impacted is subject to the requirement for a Special Use Permit as outlined by the current town ordinance.

Mrs. Cote commented that this information will be good to use in letters. Mrs. Cote commented that the prime wetlands need to be determined as there should be no work done in these areas at all. Ms. Heaney replied that the terminology for prime wetlands is not used in the report but that all 32 wetlands require a Special Use Permit and that the town ordinance covers this. Ms. Heaney replied that under the current ordinance the wetlands are all assigned the same level of importance. There is a study from 1988 that is referenced in the ordinance that may discuss prime wetlands. Mrs. Cote will try to locate the report.

Mrs. Cote will draft a letter and send to the Commission for their comments. The letter, once approved, will be sent to DES, the SEC Committee, the Bristol Select Board, the Planning Board, and the NH Association of Conservation Commissions. Mrs. Cote informed the Commission that New Hampton has an online petition to sign in opposition of the project. Mrs. Cote will discuss this with the Select Board as this is a good way to get the public's opinion. Ms. Heaney asked if there is a way to get all the locally affected towns to get together. Mrs. Cote replied that the Select Board is already trying to take that approach to reduce costs to the towns. The NH Association of Conservation Commissions is trying to do the same thing as a massed group. Ms. Heaney commented that there will still need to be support from the town and the Commission should be talking to State Representative Jeanne Forrester also. Mrs. Cote replied that all state representatives, either for or against the project, should be contacted as the letter may sway their opinions.

New Business:

Catterall Property Conservation Easement: A notice was received informing the Conservation Commission that the annual monitoring needs to be scheduled. Ms. Heaney and Mr. Batchelder will go walk the property. Ms. Heaney will call the owners and set the date. A

check list will be emailed to Ms. Heaney and Mr. Batchelder to aid in the review. The review will be filed online once completed.

Work Session: Efforts will continue to purge and organize files.

Next Meeting Logistics: Next scheduled meeting January 6, 2016

Individual Tasks Assignments: Ms. Heaney and Mr. Batchelder will complete the Catterall property review. Ms. Heaney will follow up on the culvert issue. Mrs. Cote will draft the Northern Pass letter.

Adjournment: Ms. Heaney made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Batchelder. The motion was approved and the meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy Costigan, Secretary