



Town of Weare
Conservation Commission
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**Conservation
Commission**

Andrew Fulton, Chairman
Stephen Najjar, Vice Chair
Jeff Jackson
Lisa Grolljahn
William Bolton

CONSERVATION COMMISSION 6 April 12, 2017 FINAL MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 7:09PM by Chairman Fulton.

Members present: Andy Fulton, Steve Najjar, Jeff Jackson, Bill Bolton

Guests: Bruce Fillmore, Craig Francisco, Scott Silva, Martin O'Brien, Tammy Scott, Penelope Seaver

1. 2/10/17 Site Plan Review, H2O Waste Disposal & Marty CO., dumpsters at 33 B&B Lane, 411/195 - Marty O'Brien - applicant

Craig Francisco - Planning board representative did a site walk 3 weeks ago to the Milford location. Explains the nature of the business being that Marty & Co. rents out dumpsters, brings them back in and sorts recycling from trash. A major concern of the planning board is the Aquifer. The floor drains are plugged, Marty has agreed to seal the floor. The planning board is worried about the dumpsters being stored outside with the snow/rainwater hitting ground. Craig emailed Town Planner in Milford and there were no bad comments from the Town of Milford. The aquifer needs to be monitored. They are all 2 acre lots, some with dug wells, some with drilled, some with both. Wants to come up with a plan to do some water monitoring without spending a lot of money. Marty's lot in particular has a dug well and a drilled well. Request that this well at the lot be monitored frequently. Mr. Fulton reviewed recent water test(that was done on the artesian well) and said it is a pretty good indication of baseline chemistry for natural water condition, for an entry scan, it's fairly decent. One concern could be what items could be put into the dumpster. Comparing what other businesses are down there. Marty is receptive to well monitoring annually. The commission is on a look out for water quality(ground and drinking) and other related issues. Mr. Fulton spoke regarding a high yield aquifer(a spot where you can put a casing in the ground to pull water out). From water quality and environmental standpoint water monitoring should be done. Mr. Najjar asked from a legal perspective, how are you going to enforce the water testing? Craig said it will be made out in the plan. Surface water runoff is what The Commission is concerned about for businesses in this area. Mr. Fulton suggested testing of VOC Volatile Organic Chemicals approximately \$120.00. Mr. Jackson asked, what is the

plan for retaining the data? Craig said he imagines it would be the land use commission. Marty has agreed to brush clean and cover dumpsters outside. Marty O'Brien further explained the nature of the business. Residential waste and some commercial waste - everything will be contained inside, nothing outside.

Mr. Fulton asked if it is a private transfer station, Marty agreed. Bail material will be stored inside the building and when he has enough, a trailer will come into the building and shipped out. Solid waste will be shipped out within 48 hrs. Mr. Fulton compared this business to the local landfill and perhaps doing the same types of analysis around the Town landfill (approximately \$200.00 annually). Concern is the first line of exposure. Pesticide concern in the water along with other common ones. PFOA is concerned around landfill, this is an old chemical, but a newly concerned about, but Craig said, this isn't a landfill. Mr. Najjar's concern to be fair to all businesses, sounds like everything is going on inside and thinking of the other processes in the area and doesn't think it's still early to try and figure out what tests need to be done. Mr. Fulton said there is a heightened concern in the community regarding the aquifer. Mr. Fulton has agreed with Mr. Najjar, Craig suggested that someone goes down to test the surface water as concern is that the test was done off the tap and not directly from the well. Mr. Fulton is not concerned that the business will add to the pollution to the water, highly unlikely, but is a possibility.

Mr. Najjar made a motion to end discussion and not make a recommendation to go forward with having to monitor the well, however Marty volunteered to do the water testing. This motion expired without a 2nd.

Motion made by Mr. Bolton - to move along without a motion

Trails Planning RFP Response:

10. Applicant meeting Brook Scatcher and Mariah Keagy from Sinuosity.

Nature of their business is trail design and building. Mariah started working on a trail crew in 1996 and managed the trails for the Appalachian Mountain Club for 5 years. Brook has been doing GIS since 2002 and studied at UVM and has been doing trail mapping since 2009 served on trail town committee for a few years as well. Started Sinuosity in 2010. They are interested in our request for proposal. They did some research in town on our current trails. Their closest is Moody Park in Claremont, NH. A regional project where they did a timber harvest and assessed other existing trails. They have 4 other trail design projects going on right now. They worked with State, conservation commissions and other committees. It's great when ground work has been started and working with others in the field. Mr. Fulton stated that the Town forests are actively managed. They are accustomed to the formats and working landscapes. Working out visions and guidance. All they need to get started is to have a round table to see what the visions and goals are. Same with new trails vs existing trails. New trail layouts change depending on who the intended user is. Example being a Town forest in VT that was based towards hikers, so the trails were rugged and rocky.

They also design for mountain biking, cross country skiing and hiking. Look at landscaping differently, depending on what you want. Keeping in mind depending where the trail would be located, would matter as who would use it more. The Commission is looking for professional guidance and someone to walk us thru the process. They stated that is what they do, they have the resources, they commonly make recommendations and create a report of things to consider - labor sources, grant sources, timing when things are due for grants, trail signage, etc. Mr. Fulton asked about "motorized" and snowmobiling. Sinuosity said if that is what is needed, then they can do it. They are looking for sustainability, they are not against motorized, just depends where the trail is. Mr. Fulton would want to make sure resources are available remotely. Mariah said trailhead signage is key. Mr. Fulton would hope that if we go with this company that they will look around surrounding towns to make sure we are in line with them. User group connectivity in a digital sense, need to make sure it's out there. Mr. Najjar spoke about if GIS is mapped out, then it would be very accessible. Option for a forum. Brook does presentation type mapping, but not included in proposal, but the option for a public forum is in the proposal. Mr. Jackson asked how many parcels there were in Weare and Sinuosity stated there are 8 active parcels. Having a comprehensive plan is very important. Mr. Bolton asked in your experience, how many trails are voluntarily built? Mariah said it varies a lot, probably 10% - 20% volunteer geared. Large part of Brooks's time is spent with excavators. Trails in woods work better when working with excavators than rakes. They are not against volunteer and community involvement, machines work best. As you build trails you need to maintain trails, this is where community involvement with volunteers would be most helpful.

Mr. Najjar asked when looking at trail and value, have you used lidar? Yes, they can use lidar. If you look at the lidar, bigger existing trails already use it. They use every tool on the ground that they can. Mr. Najjar spoke about a trail management system, they have a revenue stream for the town forest. Mr. Najjar explained that %revenue stream+is when the forest is harvested, the funds go into an account.

Jeremy's questions to the applicants: Resource planning developing, build something on the ground, what is the long term sustainability, how to maintain it and increase the infrastructure? From a long term perspective, they would want you there to tell us when it needs to be done. What do some of your other clients look like for sustainable. They build the trails, not necessarily maintain them. They work with volunteer groups and teach them how to take care of trail maintenance. Do they go back and visit trails that they've built? Yes, they train volunteers and how to be volunteer leaders. General maintenance is done best by local volunteers. 10 year plan, is to get it to a sustainable and maintainable level.

Public questions - none

The first step is having a meeting and getting down to the "nitty gritty" of getting a timeline. The first meeting would be with a core group of people, Jeremy to be included. Public would be made aware of the forum, so abutters could attend if they so wish. Comprehensive nature, work products, pricing, speaking the language we wanted to hear.

Mr. Bolton made a motion to retain Sinuosity for our trails master planning project, Mr. Najjar seconded - no further discussion - going with the proposal we received, timeline will be altered 4-0-0.

Chair and vice chair will sign the contract when received. Sinuosity will email a copy of the contract as they were not prepared.

Motion made by Mr. Najjar to \$6,870.00 made out of Conservation Account, in addition we authorize the Chair to raise it up to \$9,000.00 if needed Mr. Jackson seconded - no further discussion 4-0-0

Next steps will be a startup meeting date and figure out who needs to be there
2nd step will be gathering any mapping info that is not available online - Jeremy said there is a master plan - individual forestry plan are out there. Sinuosity will go out there to see what the intention. Jeremy to transfer over all GIS data to Sinuosity. Sinuosity to come to the May meeting

Town Forester's quarterly Report

Josh - Toby hill boundary line is all set, signage is complete. Wolf creek parcel, near complete for all intent purposes, yellow area needs work, Survey was done due to portion on map, boundary isn't established. Meridian approach is to try and establish the town line between Weare and Deering. 3 conservation teams looked at the Meridian proposal. Fee ownership is this included in the proposal? Deed documents are all noted, are we going to ask them to put the real location in there? This will not affect forest management. The piece that abuts the Deering town line across the river, fee ownership involved, owner doesn't want to touch it. Weare definitely owns 2 parcels. Boundary line has been blazed in red, crossing the river and harvesting on the other side. The management plan is virtually finished, sticking point was whether this was part of the property.

Meridian proposed \$4,700.00, Jeremy councils that the commission motion made by Mr. Najjar for up to \$5,000.00 from Town allowance for meridian to do the work seconded by Mr. Jackson. Mr. Najjar motioned to amend chair to sign proposal for up to \$5,000.00 for meridian of Wolfe creek and Mr. Jackson seconded 4-0-0.

Habitat on Eastman Rd, to be burned, State Forestry came in and did chemical treatment and Josh continuously reviewed. It originally called for 3 applications, but professional opinion only called for 1 and that's all they needed. Josh weed whacked in

the fall and seeded. By the third year you will see results. \$5,000.00 was allotted, but only spent \$2,900.00. Treat as you normally would. Maintain as an open space. Jeremy said let's spend some time to evaluate and monitor. Keep it on the back burner for a year to make sure we are having decent results. It is premature to expand the area, need to watch for 1-2 years. Getting there with Roundup or Rodeo. Mowing and fire on a 3-5 yr. burning and seeding. This year they will put on their list how much it's going to cost to maintain to see what is prudent to do.

Jeremy Turner-Town Forester - Ferrin Pond summary on work in progress. Jewett lots and Ferrin Pond along with the PLC, spending quite a bit of time planning on the ground of implementation design on the forestry project, 80% of the field work is complete. Moving forward, recreational use is high, water body for water quality protection, serious buffer, no activity buffer, no management zones. Recreational trails have been avoided as much as possible with machines and layouts. Not putting in regenerative cuts. There is some sensitivity with seasonality. Proposing to have some harvest units to bid sale required to be cut during frozen or snow covered ground due to low usage time. Depends on recreational and public use, the boat landing and parking. They proposed a single landing past Egress Road that would facilitate the majority of the project. Road improvements beyond the parking. Permanent improvement to the property. Two old stone culverts that are sensitive on the old class 6 road, for all to be aware of. Commission needs to look at the water flow. Due to seasonal operational units, by staggering it over a season. There is a main drainage that is coming out of Ferrin, it impacts the boat landing. It can be further minimized. There will need to be spots with significant changes to the scenery. It will not be limited to ~~width~~ but to length+. Jeremy will look at the program and think about how to handle. Trying to get clarification from Fish and Game. It would be good to let Fish and Game know that it's about to get good use. Come down existing road and come down east side and Landing to go up around the corner.

Next meeting come to a final feasibility. Jeremy will look it over and come up with a few different options. If we need an excavator on class 6, we will need permission from land use. New term reaffirmed back on April 3rd, John Osborne is concerned about the harvest on the Town Forest. Why is it always clear cut? Mr. Fulton's response was that we rely on our Town Forester for the best methodology, more discussion to be had. Need to work closely with the Town Selectman. Jeremy's goal was to have a public notice and bid showing sooner rather than later, but does not think that is feasible. Reinforce the sensibility. Revisit on the Jewett lot, the a old little structure that someone needs to look at. Jeremy will meet up with board to do a site visit to look at the bridge - Sooner rather than later. Mr. Jackson will organize a meeting for all to go to Ferrin pond

Work popping up and some overdue. Housekeepers on Felch Farm, a 100 acre unit scheduled for 2 yrs. ago, but busy elsewhere. Jeremy counseled and looked at the

ground to put an FSA together. Two different units, one 100 acres and the other 125 acres. Main access old road system that was built south of the unit.

Mr. Najjar asked if it would be worthwhile to put a cost estimate together on the water monitoring idea. No closure on not being able to blaze at Hoyt Mills, Collins ledge, spoke about putting stone piles along a section so no one gets hurt. Asked Jeremy to recon Collin Ledge.

Mr. Najjar made a motion to allocate up to \$1,000.00 out of the Conservation Fund to recon Collins Ledge and report back to Conservation and provide with an estimate to blaze or sign at Collins Ledge and checking with land owner.

Mr. Najjar made a motion and Mr. Bolton seconded 4-0-0.

#9. 3/27/17 Minimum Expedited Wetland Permit Application, Colby Road, 412/170.2, Craig Francisco Trails Planning RFP Response

Craig Francisco- application was approved by the Planning Board for the area to be RV storage. The drainage calculation approved showed a building, they repositioned the building. It wouldn't meet AOT standards. Craig gave overview of map. Before 2008 it was timbered really hard(prior to Scott owning) the crossing was made then. Hauling material to fill other areas. Applied for AOT and a second design.

Mr. Fulton asked if it's for retail use, it is not for retail use, just using for service. It's just a support area for RV's. This is an expansion to what already exists. The culvert may be crushed as water is running over the road. Mr. Fulton asked what is there for service flow, answer was Northeast to Southwest. Existing culvert, was this installed with a permit? It was logged heavy in 2009, but it's not working now - not sure if it was crushed when being driven over then. Craig asking for application to be expedited.

Mr. Bolton made a motion to accept minimum expedited permit, Mr. Jackson seconded it with no further discussion 4-0-0.

#2. 2/10/17 Subdivision, Frank & Nancy Burl, 51 Rockland Rd. , 202/94

- This was approved by the planning board

#4. 3/6/17 Site Plan Review, Tandem Kross LLC, light manufacturing/retail in commercial, 490 South Stark Highway, 412/174

- This was approved by the planning board.

#3. 3/6/17 Site Plan Review, Frank Burl Construction equipment sales, Rockland Rd. and Rte. 77, 402/64-2

- This was approved by the planning board

6th Grader Kiera Briggaman and 9th Grader Bethany Fulton re: Barry Conservation Camp Scholarships

Bethany Fulton is a 15 year old Homeschooled Freshman. She presented to the Commission a request for a Scholarship to go to the UNH Co-op Fish and Game

Outdoor Camp in Berlin, NH. In 2016 she attended this camp and she participated in the Jr. Conservation Program. She would like to do the Jr. Conservation Camp again this year. Bethany gave an overview of the program. The cost of the program is \$305.00. Mr. Bolton asked if she would like to become a Conservation Officer. Bethany stated either a Conservation Officer or a Firefighter Paramedic. She said that she researched on the Barry website and it showed that other towns give Scholarships, however Weare does not have a Scholarship Program, but wanted to ask if it would something they would consider. She also stated that she is in the Civil Air Patrol and want to obtain a private pilot's license.

The Commission also reviewed the letter from Kiera Briggaman(not present) who is also interested in attending the same camp and the week in July that she would like to would cost \$495.00.

Mr. Bolton made a motion and Jeff Jackson seconded to use \$400.00 from the Unrestricted Fund to be split evenly between the two girls. 3-0-0. Mr. Fulton had to abstain from the vote due to the nature of the discussion.

Also, an item to add to future meetings to discuss a Scholarship fund. Bethany will attend a future meeting once she attends the camp to give the Commission an update on how camp went this summer.

Conservation Commission Annual Meeting -

Mr. Najjar made a motion for all officers to remain the same. Mr. Jackson seconded. 4-0-0

Lisa Grolljahn email re: changing member status to alternate

She cannot commit at this time.

By laws will be reviewed at a future meeting.

Michael Pelletier contact re. 153 back lot land

Mr. Najjar to make a phone call to Mr. Pelletier to discuss selling the lot between the Eastman lot and Eastman Conservation lot.

Mr. Bolton mentioned the damaged gate at the Woods Family Forest by Bolton Field. The conservation has room in the budget to allocate \$80.00 with provisions of a receipt.

Mr. Jackson made a motion and Mr. Fulton seconded to adjourn at 10:56pm.

Respectfully,
Jennifer Scoledge

