

**CONCORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
Regular Meeting
November 10, 2010**

**Second Floor Conference Room, City Hall
41 Green Street, Concord, NH**

Attendance:

Members present at the meeting included: Christopher Morgan; Pamela Hunt; Tracey Boisvert; Jim Owers; Kristine Tardiff; Chris Kane; Courtney Lockwood; Jan McClure; Doug Woodward, City Planner and Rebecca Hebert, Planner, also attended the meeting.

C. Morgan, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00.

1. Minutes: The group reviewed the minutes of the October meeting. K. Tardiff moved to accept the minutes of the October 13, 2010 meeting; C. Lockwood seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the minutes were adopted.

2. Wetlands Bureau:

a. Standard Dredge and Fill Wetlands Application of the City of Concord for repairs to the Rattlesnake Brook culvert off of North State Street- R. Hebert provided an overview of the project. The City of Concord is proposing to replace the existing granite culvert that outfalls onto the Elgland property with a new drainage structure. The project involves removing the existing structures on the Elgland property and constructing an access road to a rip-rap outfall. The property was severely eroded during the Mother's Day storm. The site stabilization and culvert replacement is proposed as part of the Route 3 corridor construction. The Commission discussed the proposal and commented that the project might be overdesigned, and asked if the grading impacts could be reduced to preserve more of the existing features onsite.

b. Permit by Notification filed by Jeff Holt for the installation of culvert and gravel ditch for a proposed driveway off of Oak Hill Road- R. Hebert provided an overview of the proposal. The applicant would like to construct a driveway to access an existing house lot off of Oak Hill Road. The driveway construction would impact approximately 50 sq. ft. of wetlands. R. Hebert explained that there is an existing gated driveway that is used as a service road for the PSNH utility line; when this driveway was originally constructed, a wetland fill was permitted, and the applicant needs to upgrade the driveway culvert and swales for the proposed residence. The Commission did not have any comments or concerns related to the application.

c. Correspondence - R. Hebert reviewed correspondence from the NHDES Wetlands Bureau.

3. City Council/Planning Board Action

a. The Commission discussed the proposed wild and scenic designation of the Merrimack River. R. Hebert explained that the informational session for the City Council has been scheduled for December 13th. The National Park Service has been asked to present an overview of the program and Judith Spang would be available to discuss the Lamprey River and the effects of the designation. The Park Service has also invited a City Councilor from Franklin to talk about why the City of Franklin supported the designation. J. McClure said she would submit the report to the City Clerk. The group also discussed preparing a press release and spreading the news of the designation to local special interest groups such as Concord Crew, Merrimack Valley Paddlers, EMS, the Forest Society, Trout Unlimited, and the Audubon Center. P. Hunt offered to include this in the Audubon's newsletter.

b. C. Morgan reported that the City Council approved the purchase of the Bunten and Potter properties on Monday night. He said that several members of the Trails Committee testified in support of the land acquisition as well as a representative from the Bow Pioneers snowmobile club and Jane Presby from Dimond Hill Farm.

4. Wildlife Habitats, Natural Communities, and Rare Species Analysis for Concord, New Hampshire – Dan Sperduto of Sperduto Ecological Services presented an overview of his report entitled “Wildlife Habitats, Natural Communities, and Rare Species Analysis for Concord, New Hampshire.” Following Mr. Sperduto's presentation, Vanessa Goold of Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission explained that the next step would be to conduct a mapping exercise that reviewed the co-occurrence of selected natural features to develop a Green Infrastructure map. The group discussed scheduling of two subcommittee meetings for this exercise. Once the map was prepared it would be brought back to the group at a regular meeting for review. She passed out a map of Dunbarton's green infrastructure map as an example and explained that the map contained three levels of priority, and that not all of the land identified as green infrastructure would be considered land the Commission would want to acquire. R. Hebert suggested inviting past Commission members to participate in the ranking process.

5. Reports:

- a. Trails Committee - R. Hebert reported that the Trails Committee conducted a site walk to review the proposal by David Murray to restore the old railroad bed at the Fleetham/O'Reilly property for use as a snowmobile trail. She said that the committee felt the work would involve extensive wetland impacts and did not support the request. R. Hebert offered to talk with David Murray about their recommendation. R. Hebert also reported that the Trails Committee is in the process of constructing the new trails at Rossvie Farm. C. Kane said that the Commission has received a signed Trail Agreement for the City's use of the trails on the Weston property. R. Hebert said the trail agreement would be on the City Council's consent agenda in December.
- b. C. Morgan said that he attended a meeting to discuss the feasibility of establishing an Agricultural Commission in Concord.
- c. R. Hebert reported that she read in the Contoocook River Local Advisory Committee minutes that a new member has been appointed from Concord. She offered to verify this with the City Manager's office.

6. Open Space:

J. Owers moved to enter into a nonpublic session for the discussion of land acquisitions in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II(d). T. Boisvert seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Following the discussion the Commission moved to exit nonpublic session and seal the minutes. The motion was duly seconded and passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM.

A TRUE RECORD ATTEST:
Rebecca W. Hebert
Planner, Secretary pro-tem