

CENTER HARBOR CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2022

Commissioners present: Maureen Criasia, Chair
Karin Karagozian
George Gurney
Barbara Picard
Mark Hildebrand

Absent With Notice: Harry Viens, Selectmen's Representative
Don Carey

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m. by Chairman, Criasia. The statement of purpose of the Commission, as reflected on the municipal website, was read aloud.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made to approve, without changes, the draft minutes of the May 11, 2022 meeting by Commissioner Gurney; seconded by Commissioner Karagozian. All in favor.

Introduction of New Commissioner, Mark Hildebrand:

Chairman Criasia introduced Commissioner Hildebrand, and Mark provided the Commission with some background information about himself.

Old Business:

a.) 33 Bean Road, Moultonborough – Project Update

The municipal permitting process for the construction plans has been suspended due to ongoing litigation in NH Superior Court, and a stay has been placed on the project.

The applicant's request for 60 units has been denied by municipal land boards regulations.

The Commission will continue to monitor future activity on this project.

b.) Update -- NH Electric Coop (NHEC) 2022 Herbicide Spraying

The NHEC has continued to update their website and has submitted pertinent information in its recent newsletters. There is now an online section that allows property owners to opt out of spraying for each calendar year.

Planned in the near future is a NHEC panel discussion style public presentation which will be co-sponsored by the Waukegan & Winona Watershed Protective Association, notice to be posted on the Commission's webpage.

c.) Snake River/Mosquito Bridge Construction Project Update

NH Dept. of Transportation site engineer emailed that the contractor has completed the sub-structure for the bridge and is currently working on the super-structure. All work is being done as planned and there has been no additional impact on the Snake River Prime Wetlands, working in accordance with conditions of the NH Dept. of Environmental Services permit. Road work is also on schedule, and the project should be completed around Columbus Day as planned.

d.) Status of House Bill 1066 -- Cyanobacteria Blooms.

House Bill 1066 has been signed into law by Governor Sununu on July 1, 2022. It is incorporated into Chapter 292 (of RSA) and requires the Commission of the NHDES to prepare a plan relative to cyanobacteria blooms in NH. In addition, the bill creates an advisory committee to NHDES made up of expert stakeholders from state agencies, non-profits, the medical, veterinary and scientific communities, and members of local lakes and watershed associations (including NH Lakes).

e.) Letter Template for 2023 House and Senate Bills

Pending...Commissioner Criasia hopes to have a template for review at the Commission's November meeting.

New Business:

a.) Vetoed House Bill 1454 / Siting of Landfills Near Water Resources

On September 15, 2022, there will be votes in the NH House & Senate to override Governor Sununu's veto of HB 1454 that previously passed with overwhelming, bipartisan support.

Commissioner Karagozian moved that the Commission write a letter of concern to our state representatives, Senator Bob Giuda and Representative for NH Belknap District 1, Tom Ploszaj, to encourage their support for overriding the veto. Motion seconded by George Gurney, all in favor. It is on record that Senator Giuda originally voted in favor of this bill prior to it reaching the Governor's desk.

Commissioners Picard and Criasia will compose a letter at the end of the meeting today and send it via email and to the above-mentioned individuals.

b.) NHDES Upcoming Presentation in October on Volunteer Lake Assessment Program (VLAP)

"Save the Date" - on October 12, 2022, Sara Steiner from NH Dept. of Environmental Services will give a presentation sponsored by the Waukegan Watershed Advisory Committee, on water sampling and its analysis.

Additional Business:

a.) Proposed Boundary Line Agreement between TML 229-003 and Fogg Hill Conservation Area (TML 224-004)

Email from LRCT Stewardship Director Dave Mallard reports ongoing efforts to complete the survey work necessary on the Fogg Hill Conservation Area. Since his prior communication with the Commission, he has met with, and has received a survey and survey related supporting documents from the property owner of TML 229-003. These materials recommend that a boundary line agreement be drawn up between the two properties. The documents have been forwarded to Ames Associates in order to complete the process, including the onsite monumentation. It is hoped that there will be a boundary line agreement between the two properties that will simplify remaining work to be done, and significantly reduce the cost of a new survey.

b.) Styrofoam Recycling Endeavor - Town of Gilford

The Town of Gilford is invested in the recycling of styrofoam and has procured the necessary machinery to do so, becoming the only such facility in the state. The challenge is achieving the volume of styrofoam necessary to make the endeavor viable financially. To accomplish this, other nearby towns would need to send their styrofoam to Gilford for processing. This raises questions of storage, transport and delivery, as styrofoam takes up a lot of space.

c.) Proposed Amendment to Purpose of Conservation Commission

Commissioner Criasia proposed and motioned to amend one sentence within the statement outlining the purpose of the Conservation Commission, adding the Code Enforcement Officer, as follows:

*The CHCC is an advisory group offering input on conservation matters to the Center Harbor Board of Selectmen, **Code Enforcement Officer**, Planning Board, Zoning Board of Adjustment, and the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services.*

Commissioner Picard seconded; all in favor.

d.) Future meeting dates for Conservation Commission

It is proposed that the Commission continue to meet quarterly, however, on a date other than the second Wednesday of the month. For the November 2022 meeting, it will meet on the first Wednesday of the month, November 2nd. Thereafter, the Commission will meet on the THIRD Wednesday of the months of February, May, August and November.

e.) NHDES Wetlands Dredge and Fill Application 2022-02453

Commissioners Gurney and Criasia reviewed the wetlands application for at 48 Brookside Lane (TML 104-008). A shorefront retaining wall will be rebuilt by hand within the footprint of a deteriorating existing wall that will be removed. Commissioner Criasia conferred with Bill Doucette, Code Enforcement Officer - all agree that the application accurately reflects the scope of the project, and that the work should be conducted during the time when the lake level is lowest.

f.) Squam Lakes Association (SLA) Proposed Action to Protect Squam Watershed

Commissioner Gurney advised the Commission of a new initiative by the SLA to protect the Squam Watershed. Information can be found on the SLA website. On the website, click on "Learn about the Campaign" under "Campaign for Squam" in order to read the Action Plan. SLA has worked in past years to identify areas in the watershed that require mitigation of harmful sources to the lake's water quality, hence the campaign.

Correspondence:

No correspondence of note

Adjourn:

The meeting was at 9:51 a.m.

(Next meeting of the Conservation Commission will be at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, November 2, 2022)